NPS Form 10-900

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

1. Name of Property

Historic Name: Feller-Barsch Homestead
Other name/site number: Hill Farm
Name of related multiple property listing: NA

2. Location

Street & number: 614 Ellen Lane
City or town: Fredericksburg State: Texas County: Gillespie
Not for publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☑

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☑ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☑ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria.

I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following levels of significance:
☐ national ☐ statewide ☑ local

Applicable National Register Criteria: ☑ A ☐ B ☑ C ☐ D

Mark Wolfe State Historic Preservation Officer 7/25/19
Signature of certifying official / Title **Date**

Texas Historical Commission
State or Federal agency / bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting or other official **Date**

State or Federal agency / bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

___ entered in the National Register
___ determined eligible for the National Register
___ determined not eligible for the National Register.
___ removed from the National Register
___ other, explain: _____

Signature of the Keeper **Date of Action**

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

X	Private
	Public - Local
	Public - State
	Public - Federal

Category of Property

	building(s)
X	district
	site
	structure
	object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
8	1	buildings
1	0	sites
2	0	structures
1	0	objects
12	1	total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions: Domestic: single dwelling, secondary structure;
Agriculture/Subsistence: agricultural outbuilding, animal facility
Funerary/cemetery
Landscape: object

Current Functions: Domestic: single dwelling, secondary structure;
Agriculture/Subsistence: agricultural outbuilding
Funerary/cemetery
Landscape: object

7. Description

Architectural Classification: Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movements: Bungalow/Craftsman; Other: Mid-to-Late Nineteenth Century Vernacular; Other: No Style

Principal Exterior Materials: Wood, Metal, Stone/Limestone

Narrative Description (see continuation sheets 7-8 through 7-15)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

X	A	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
	B	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
X	C	Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
	D	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations: NA

Areas of Significance: Ethnic Heritage: German; Architecture

Period of Significance: 1852-1913

Significant Dates: 1852

Significant Person (only if criterion b is marked): NA

Cultural Affiliation (only if criterion d is marked): NA

Architect/Builder: NA

Narrative Statement of Significance (see continuation sheets 8-16 through 8-23)

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography (see continuation sheets 9-24 through 9-25)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):
- _ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- _ previously listed in the National Register
- _ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- _ designated a National Historic Landmark
- _ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- _ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:
- x State historic preservation office (*Texas Historical Commission*, Austin)
- _ Other state agency
- _ Federal agency
- _ Local government
- _ University
- _ Other -- Specify Repository:

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): NA

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: approximately 103 acres

Coordinates (either UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: NA

1. Latitude: 30.213174° N Longitude: -98.737456° W
2. Latitude: 30.213091° N Longitude: -98.718079° W
3. Latitude: 30.210999° N Longitude: -98.718055° W
4. Latitude: 30.211185° N Longitude: -98.737459° W

Verbal Boundary Description: See metes and bounds on continuation sheet 10-26 and as shown on maps 2 and 3.

Boundary Justification: The boundary includes all property historically associated with the Feller-Barsch Homestead.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/title: Maria Watson Pfeiffer
Organization: ReSearch
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Date: October 17, 2018

Additional Documentation

Maps (see continuation sheet Map-27 through Map-30)

Additional items (see continuation sheets Figure-31 through Figure-34)

Photographs (see continuation sheet Photo-35 through Photo-50)

Photograph Log

Feller-Barsch Farm
614 Ellen Lane
Luckenbach, Texas
Photographed by Maria Watson Pfeiffer
February 2019 (exceptions noted)

Photo 1 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0001) Feller Barsch Homestead
Looking north on Ellen Lane from Luckenbach Road.

Photo 2 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0002)
Feller-Barsch Homestead
View looking north from Luckenbach Road.

Photo 3 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0003)
Feller-Barsch Homestead
Looking west in farm compound. (2015)

Photo 4 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0004)
Feller-Barsch Homestead
Otto Barsch House. North elevation looking south. (2015)

Photo 5 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0005)
Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 1)
Otto Barsch House. South elevation looking northwest.

Photo 6 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0006)
Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 1)
Otto Barsch House. Interior looking southwest.

Photo 7 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0007)
Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 1)
Otto Barsch House. Interior looking east.

Photo 8 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0008)
Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 2)
Cistern. West and south elevations looking northeast.

Photo 9 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0009)
Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 2)
Cistern. East elevation looking west.

Photo 10 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0010)
Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 2)
Cistern. Interior view of cellar.

Photo 11 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0011)
Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 3)
Smokehouse. West and south elevations looking northwest.

Photo 12 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0012)
Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 3)
Smokehouse. North elevation looking southeast. (2017)

Photo 13 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0013)
Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 3)
Smokehouse. Interior looking east.

Photo 14 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0014)
Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 4)
Feller-Barsch House. South elevation looking north.

Photo 15 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0015)
Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 4)
Feller-Barsch House. North elevation looking southwest.

Photo 16 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0016)
Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 4)
Feller-Barsch House. Interior looking west showing center and west rooms.

Photo 17 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0017)
Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 5)
One-story barn. Looking northwest with 2-story barn in background.

Photo 18 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0018)
Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 6)
Two-story barn. South elevation looking north. (2015)

Photo 19 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0019)
Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 6)
Two-story barn. Hardware on south elevation. (2017)

Photo 20 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0020)
Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 7)
Tractor shed (non-contributing). East elevation looking west. (2015)

Photo 21 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0021)
Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 8)
Log building. East and north elevation slooking southwest. (2015)

Photo 22 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0022)
Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 8)
Log building. South and west elevations looking northeast.

Photo 23 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0023)
Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 8)
Log building. View of interior walls and roof structure.

Photo 24 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0024)
Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 9)

Loading ramp. Looking west. (2015)
Photo 25 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0025)
Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 10)
Plugged well.

Photo 26 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0026)
Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 11)
Stone retaining wall on west side of creek looking north. (2015)

Photo 27 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0027)
Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 12)
Cabin. South and east elevations looking northwest. (2015)

Photo 28 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0028)
Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 12)
Cabin. Interior looking northwest.

Photo 29 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0029)
Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 13)
Barsch Family cemetery. Looking west. (2015)

Photo 30 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0030)
Feller-Barsch Homestead
Landscape looking west from east side of South Grape Creek. Cut for low water crossing visible on far side of creek.

Photo 31 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0031)
Feller-Barsch Homestead
Heritage live oak on east side of creek near cabin.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Narrative Description

The Feller-Barsch Homestead is at 614 Ellen Lane, a private lane leading to the homestead from Luckenbach Road in southeastern Gillespie County, Texas. The property is approximately seven miles east of Fredericksburg. South Grape Creek, a tributary of the Pedernales River, bisects 103.6-acre site. The district has 13 total resources: a cluster of eight buildings and three structures are around and in a central farm yard west of the creek; one building and the family cemetery are east of the creek. With one exception, all resources west of the creek are contributing. These include a fachwerk and stone house (c. 1852-1880), a log and stone smokehouse (1852-1880), two cypress barns (late 1800s), a log building, possibly used originally as a barn or for storage (late 1800s), a stone cistern building (1913) and a metal-clad house (c. 1911). A concrete livestock loading ramp (late 1900s) is in the center of the yard. Only a modern tractor shed is non-contributing. East of the creek is a board and batten house (early 1900s), likely built for workers. Burials in the small family cemetery a short distance north of the house date from 1893 to 1937. Both are contributing features. The fields west of the farm compound are open and used for agriculture while the land east of the creek is partially-cleared and features native trees and grasses. The buildings are in very good condition except for two cypress barns that have been stabilized. The Feller-Barsch Homestead, with resources that date from the mid-1800s to the early 1900s, illustrates the evolution of architectural techniques and styles on a small family farm that was owned by members of only two families from 1852 until 1980. The district retains a high degree of integrity.

Setting

The Feller-Barsch Homestead is a rectangular shaped, 103.6-acre property in southeastern Gillespie County, Texas approximately seven miles east of Fredericksburg, the county seat. It is the center tract of Hill Farm, a 295-acre property formed of three, 19th century German homesteads. The rural terrain is typical of the Texas Hill Country, a geographic region in Central Texas distinguished by its rolling hills and eroded limestone ridges. South Grape Creek divides the Feller-Barsch Homestead as it meanders through the site on a north/south axis. Like other creeks and rivers in Gillespie County, South Grape Creek was a generally reliable source of water to sustain settlers and their livestock. Land along these waterways was relatively fertile and conducive to growing crops as compared with shallow, rocky soils that characterized much of the Texas Hill Country. The Feller-Barsch Homestead was established on the higher, west bank of South Grape Creek, which provided natural protection from floods that are common to waterways along the Balcones Escarpment, a geological uplift where weather systems often collided to produce torrential rains.[1] Vegetation in the area includes live oak and pecan trees, as well as Ashe juniper (cedar), which is now ubiquitous in the Hill Country. In areas that are not cultivated, including the eastern part of the nominated property, native grasses are mixed with various woody shrubs and vines, supplying protective cover for wildlife.

It was in this setting that the Gellerman, Feller, and Basse families, all German immigrants, established homes in the tight-knit South Grape Creek Community where they and their successors continued to live and farm until the early from the mid-19th to early 21st centuries.[2] The houses, associated outbuildings, and fields are located on land that was part of the Francisco de Leon Survey No. 19 assigned to John R. Cunningham and inherited by his family in the early 1840s. Cunningham's league and labor on the Pedernales River and a tributary, Grape Creek, were acquired by John C. Hays and Henry M. Lewis in 1850. Hays and Lewis subdivided the land and sold it to various individuals including Ferdinand Gellerman, William Feller, and Henry Basse. Additional land that is part of the nominated property includes a small part of the adjoining Leandro Escamilla Survey No. 16.

[1] Patrick Cox. Unpublished typescript prepared for Bruce Hill, [2015].

[2] Luckenbach took its name from Minnie Engel Luckenbach who opened the South Grape Creek post office there in 1854. The small community that grew up near the post office became known as South Grape Creek. The post office was renamed Luckenbach in 1886 (*Handbook of Texas Online*, Glen E. Lich and Brandy Schnautz, "Luckenbach, TX," http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/hnl48. accessed October 03, 2018).

In 1989, the Hill Family bought the Gellerman and Feller-Barsch tracts and the Basse tract in 2006. Only the Feller-Barsch Tract, which comprises the center portion of the Hill Farm, retains a substantial degree of architectural integrity and is nominated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. While there are standing historic structures on both the Gellerman (130 acres) and Basse (61 acres) tracts, remodeling and new construction have compromised the historical and architectural integrity.

The Feller-Barsch Homestead

Located approximately seven miles east from Fredericksburg, Texas, the nominated district is reached by turning south onto Luckenbach Road from US-290, and traveling one mile to a caliche road, Ellen Lane, that leads 0.6 miles west to the Hill Farm. A narrow caliche road meanders approximately 0.25 miles through the Gellerman tract before reaching the Feller-Barsch tract. **(Photos 1, 2).** After passing through the Feller-Barsch tract, the road ends at the Basse tract.

The Feller-Barsch Farm comprises a portion of the land originally sold by John C. Hays and Henry M. Lewis to William Feller in 1852. In 1867, Carl Frederick Barsch purchased 100 acres from Clara Feller and, by 1911, Barsch bought an additional 3.6 acres along the far eastern property line.[3] The nominated farm compound, a total of 13 resources, is concentrated west of South Grape Creek. Two resources—a board and batten house and the Barsch Family cemetery—are east of the creek **(Maps 4 & 5).** A caliche road connects the western and eastern portions of the property by way of a low water crossing immediately beyond the north property line. The historic crossing, no longer in use, is a short distance to the south of the current crossing **(Photo 30)**. Although the western part of the property was cleared for farming in the 1800s, the eastern part still features oak, pecan, and cedar trees, as well as a variety of grasses that supply food and shelter for deer, turkey, doves, and other wildlife **(Photos 1-2, 30-31)**.

There are 13 resources in the nominated district, 12 of which are contributing and one non-contributing. Seven contributing buildings (five pre-1900; one c. 1911; and one dated 1913), one non-contributing building (c. 1990), and three contributing structures (a livestock loading ramp, well, and stone wall) are sited in and around the central farmyard west of the South Grape Creek. The buildings include two residences, one building that was possibly used for storage, a cistern/dry storage building, smokehouse, two barns and one storage shed. The eighth contributing building (a c. 1900 building that was possibly a workers' house) and one contributing site (the Barsch family cemetery) are east of the creek. The pre-1900 buildings are constructed of various materials including log, stone, *fachwerk* (timber construction infilled with stone), and lumber. The c. 1911 building is metal clad frame construction, and the 1913 cistern is stone. The one non-contributing building is a frame storage shed dating to c.1990.

Inventory of Properties

The Feller-Barsch Homestead has 12 contributing resources (8 buildings, 2 structures, 1 object, 1 site) dating from the settlement period to the early 20th century. The buildings and structures reflect the evolutionary nature typical of small German farms in Gillespie County. Settlement-era structures were built of timber and stone found onsite while an early 20th century house incorporates manufactured materials. Other contributing features to the district include a livestock loading ramp and the Barsch Family cemetery. The Feller-Barsch Homestead has 13 resources—12 are contributing and one is noncontributing. The resources are within the boundaries of the 103.6-acre nominated property. Only one date is based on primary evidence—the cistern house which is inscribed with the date "1913." The Otto Barsch house is dated c. 1911 based on the year he inherited the property from his mother and logically would have built a new house for himself and his family. All other dates are estimated based on architectural styles and building materials.

[3] Gillespie County Deed Records (GCDR) D:414 (July 27, 1852); B:267 (November 9, 1850); C:284 (January 10, 1852); H:507 (February 7, 1867); 52:118 (November 10, 1939); 52:128 (November 13, 1939); 140:116 (December 31, 1980); 153:586 (May 31, 1893); 194:575 (September 15, 1989).

The locations of each resource are shown on Maps 4-5.

Table of Resources

Resource #		Property Type	Year built	Contributing/ Non-Contributing	Photo #
1	Otto Barsch House	Building	c. 1911	Contributing	4-7
2	Cistern building	Building	1913	Contributing	8-10
3	Smokehouse	Building	Late 1800s	Contributing	11-13
4	Feller-Barsch House	Building	1852-1880	Contributing	14-16
5	1-story barn	Building	Late 1800s	Contributing	17
6	1 ½ barn	Building	Late 1800s	Contributing	18-19
7	Tractor shed	Building	c. 1990	Non-contributing	20
8	Log building	Building	Late 1800s	Contributing	21-23
9	Loading platform	Object	Late 1800s	Contributing	24
10	Well	Structure	c. 1900	Contributing	25
11	Stone retaining wall	Structure	c. 1900	Contributing	26
12	Cabin	Building	c. 1900	Contributing	27-28
13	Barsch Cemetery	Site	1893	Contributing	29

1) Otto Barsch House (contributing; c. 1911), **Photos 4-7**
Description: The Otto Barsch House, constructed c. 1911, is a 1½ story frame building set on a limestone foundation surrounded by pecan trees. The house is clad in galvanized steel sheet metal siding embossed to mimic stone construction. This material was popularized in the early 1900s and manufactured by companies such as the W.F. Norman Manufacturing Company of Missouri and widely sold by distributors that included Sears, Roebuck and Company.[4] The house is entered from a recessed porch on the north elevation. Above the porch, paired 2-over-2 windows emit light to the finished attic space. A gabled metal roof with projecting eaves is supported by simple wooden brackets. Originally, the house had a V-crimp roof, but it was replaced with a standing seam metal roof when it deteriorated. Rectangular 2-over-2 wood frame windows have simple wood surrounds and sills. The west elevation has two rectangular 2-over-2 wood frame windows and smaller paired windows at the southwest corner. Two small windows in the side gable emit light to the attic space. The south elevation features a screened porch that extends the full width of the house. A pair of 2-over-two windows emit light to the attic space. On the east elevation, 2-over-2 rectangular windows flank a smaller window. As on the west elevation, two small windows set in the gable emit light to the attic.

On the interior, there are two rooms on either side of a center hall and a kitchen/living space across the back of the house that opens onto the screened porch. The walls enclosing the second room to the right of the hall were partially removed and replaced with open shelving that corresponds to the original floorplan. A kitchen/living space was created across the rear of the house by removing a wall that previously enclosed a small kitchen. An original ceiling beam that defined the old kitchen shows the original room arrangement. Except for these interior changes and the roof, the owners made no alterations to the house.

Significance: The Otto Barsch House reflects the last period of building on the Feller-Barsch Homestead. Its construction date, c. 1911, was based on the year that Carl and Anna Barsch's son, Otto, inherited the property. The

[4] The W.F Norman Manufacturing Company catalog advertised a galvanized steel "pitch-faced stone siding" that is similar in size and pattern on the Otto Barsch House as early as 1905 through 1936.
https://archive.org/details/WFNormanCatalogue1905/page/n43 and https://archive.org/details/SheetMetalBuildingMaterials-WFNorman/page/n15.

galvanized sheet metal siding and bungalow style reflected the introduction of popular (national) building methods and trends to rural communities. Together with the mid-to-late 19th century house a short distance to the east, the house shows the evolution of rural residential architecture on a farm that was owned by a single family from 1867 to 1980. The house continues to be used as a residence in 2018.[5]

2) Cistern Building (contributing; 1913), **Photos 8-10**
Description: The 1 ½ story cistern building is constructed of smooth finished cut limestone blocks. It is approximately 82-feet northeast of the Feller house and about 130 feet above South Grape Creek to the east. Originally, the stone building supported a wooden cistern on its flat roof. When bought by the current owner in 1989, the cistern and roof had deteriorated and collapsed. The flat roof was removed, and two stone courses added to support a new, metal hipped roof that culminates in a projecting louvered vent. The west elevation has one 6-over-6 wood frame window in the center. The window is spanned by a lintel carved with the date "1913." The south elevation features a centered 6-over-6 window, as well as two smaller windows about two feet above grade level that emit light and air to the lower level. These windows have projecting stone lintels. The east elevation has a single window at both the lower and upper levels. At the northeast corner of the north elevation, stone stairs lead to the upper and lower levels. Both the basement and upper level are undivided. The wood flooring in the upper room was replaced to match the original. Deteriorated wood frame windows and shutters were repaired to match the original. The door to the cellar, operated by a weighted cable and pulley system, is original. The rest of the building remained unchanged. The more formal, finished design with the date carved in stone is unusual for a utilitarian building of this type. Though no documentation is available, it is possible that it was constructed as a residence with roof-top cistern and storage cellar. This is, however, only speculation.

Significance: Although South Grape Creek supplied water for early residents of the homestead, a cistern atop this elevated storage building assured a clean, reliable water supply in times of drought. The lower, half-basement level provided cool, dry storage.

3) Smokehouse (contributing; c. 1852-1880), **Photos 11-13**
Description: The smokehouse is a small, rectangular windowless building built of logs, stone, and wood siding on a stone foundation. The east and north walls are of log and stone construction, while the west and south elevations are of board. The building is approximately 50 feet east of the Feller-Barsch house and 60 feet northeast of the cistern building. The simple structure, with a center gable roof of corrugated metal, is accessed through a single doorway in the west elevation. There are no openings in the north, south and east elevations. A shed roof supported by rustic posts protects a stone porch on the north elevation. A freestanding, remnant stone wall is at the northeast corner of the building. It is not clear how the wall was related to the smokehouse. The current owners re-grouted the stone foundation and added a stone floor to stabilize the building. Column bases were reinforced with stone. The corrugated metal roof has not been replaced with modern material. The interior retains historic beams and roof material, and some smokehouse fixtures remain.

Significance:
The smokehouse was an essential structure for rural families who processed the animals they raised for food and wild game they hunted in the surrounding countryside. The covered porch may have supplied added space for food preparation in the 19th century.

4) Feller-Barsch House (contributing; c. 1852-1880), **Photos 14-16**
Description: The log, stone, and fachwerk house is approximately 35-feet north of the cistern building and is oriented to the farm yard. Kenneth Hafertepe, who has written extensively about German settlement and architecture in the Texas Hill Country, concluded that it was likely constructed in three phases as follows: a) The center portion of the

[5] As previously noted, the farm left the family's ownership for only three days after the 1939 sheriff's sale.

building is the oldest portion- c. 1852 to 1870; b) the first addition was made to the western elevation of the original building- c.1865 to 1880, and the second addition was made to the east elevation-c. 1870 to 1885.

a) The center, oldest part of the house is formed of widely spaced hand-hewn timbers infilled with rubble limestone. As originally constructed, it was typical of a 1 ½ story single-pen log house with side gables.[6] Hafertepe's analysis concludes that there might have been a porch on the east elevation. As the building evolved and the porch enclosed, the entryway was moved to the center of the south elevation. Hafertepe speculates that this doorway was previously a window. Today the doorway is protected by a modern overhang. The current owners removed a deteriorated lean-to shed that was appended to the south elevation and built an exterior stairway to access the door leading into a loft area. Though not based on historic documentation, the stairway is consistent with other buildings of this period and locale. On the north elevation, the center part appears to have been infilled later and a window added.[7] The window was in place when the current owners bought the property.

b) The first (west) addition consists of a rock lean-to or shed room. Rooms like this, commonly built to expand log houses, were typically constructed of stone due to the difficulty of attaching a new log wall to an older log structure.[8] Hafertepe believes that the chimney in the north wall near its juncture with the log building could possibly be original to the earlier building. A door on the south elevation appears to be an addition to the original design but was there in 1989 when the current owners bought the property. The original weathered wood door at the upper level provided access to the loft area. The 6-over-6 windows in the north and west elevations are possibly original and the sashes were simply repaired,

c) The second (east) lean-to addition is either an enclosure of the original cabin porch, or an addition that entirely replaced the original porch. Hafertepe noted the fachwerk, with thin wooden framing and large stones, is a later example of the building method. The east wall was dismantled, stabilized, and rebuilt in the early 1990s. A stone foundation was added. The paired 6-over-6 windows on the north, east and south elevations were rebuilt to match the originals, and the chimney at the southeast corner of the house is original.

On the interior, the small house is divided into three rooms corresponding to the three building periods. Both stone and fachwerk walls are exposed in the easternmost room. The room has a beamed ceiling and wood floor that replaced an earlier, deteriorated floor. The center room has a beaded board ceiling, fachwerk walls, and the original wood floor. The western room has limestone walls. The room was divided to create a small bathroom on the north side.

Significance: As the oldest surviving building on the property, the log house, with its fachwerk and stone additions, is thought to be the first house constructed by the Feller family after settling here in in the early 1850s. Proximity to the creek, a well in the center of the compound (now abandoned and filled), and later, to the nearby cistern, provided access to water for household use. The original creek crossing, which accessed fields to the east, was south of the house. As of 2019, it functions as a residence.

5) Cypress barn (contributing; late 19th century), **Photo 17**
Description: The board and batten barn faces south onto the farm yard. The barn appears to have been constructed in two phases. The earlier, eastern part is built on a limestone foundation and has a tall, gabled roof, while the western part is built at grade with a low, flat roof. Both are constructed of wide cypress planks, have crude hinged doors opening from their south elevations onto the farm yard, and are roofed in corrugated metal. There is a hinged opening in the east wall of the gable-roofed part. Similar hinged openings are on the north elevations of both portions of the building.

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[6] Terry G. Jordan. *Texas Log Buildings: A Folk Architecture.* (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1978), 107-108.
[7] Citing a similar infilled opening in another log house, Terry Jordan, in his seminal study of Texas log buildings, states that such an opening may have been a fireplace gap (Jordan, *Log Buildings*, 141).
[8] Ibid, 137.

Significance: The barn was an essential farm building, supplying shelter for animals and/or storage for farm equipment and products. Because this building appears to represent two building periods, it is likely to have evolved as the Barsch family added storage space. As of 2019, it is used for storage of equipment and miscellaneous items. Though the stone foundation was repaired to stabilize the building, it is otherwise unrestored.

6) Two-story cypress barn (contributing; late 19th century), **Photo 18**
Description: Like the adjacent barn, the two-story barn is built of wide cypress planks and is set on a limestone foundation. It also has hinged panels that open to provide air and light. There are no openings on the west elevation. The tall, gabled roof is of corrugated metal. Again, like the neighboring barn, crude hinged doors open to the south onto the farm yard. Some hardware appears to be hand-wrought (Photo 19).

Significance: Family tradition supports that this barn was used for storage of corn, one of the crops grown on the farm. It appears to be of slightly higher quality construction than the adjoining barn and is possibly the older of the two buildings. The barn is unrestored except for the stone foundation that was repaired.

7) Tractor shed (non-contributing; c. 1990), **Photo 20**
Description: This utilitarian shed roofed structure is opened on its north and south elevations and enclosed with modern board and batten on its east and west elevations. It is used to store farm equipment.

Significance: The tractor shed has no historical significance.

8) One-room log building (contributing; late 19th century), **Photos 21-23**
Description: The one-room log building is near the tractor shed. It is built of log and frame with a gabled roof and is set on a stone foundation that has been repointed. The east, west and south walls are constructed of logs infilled with limestone while the north part of the building is of board and batten construction. The building is entered through an original solid board and batten door. The flagstone floor on both the porch and interior was installed by the current owner to replace a dirt floor. The metal standing seam roof extends to cover the deep porch and is supported by simple wood columns. There is a rectangular window in the south (log) elevation and a pair of 6-over-6 windows in the north (board and batten) elevation. The current owner repaired the windows to match the original windows. The variation in construction materials is unexplained. It is possible that the building was expanded at some time, or that a deteriorated wall was replaced. There is no evidence of a chimney flue, showing that perhaps this building was constructed as a utilitarian single-crib barn.[9] The interior is unpartitioned. Original beams, roof decking, and log construction are exposed. Two horizontal beams appear to have been added to stabilize the building.

Significance: The original use of this building is not known with certainty, but its construction shows that it dates to the 19th century.

9) Loading ramp (contributing object; late 19th century), **Photo 24**
Description: This ramp, built of hewn limestone blocks, was used for loading livestock. Its location in the center of the farm yard gave easy access for wagons and other vehicles. The remaining pens that housed livestock prior to loading had collapsed and were removed when the current owners bought the property.

Significance: A loading ramp would have been an important structure to ease transport of livestock from one location to another

10) Well (contributing, c. 1900 or earlier), **Photo 25**

[9] Ibid, 161-162.

Description: The well is an offset hole within a square of smooth-finished cut limestone blocks like those used in the construction of the Cistern building. It is likely, however, that the well pre-dated the cistern and plausible that the well was later "improved" with the stone surround. It is in the middle of the farm yard centered in a circular garden bed. A large Century Plant (agave) grows from the filled-in well.

Significance: A well was an essential part on rural homesteads to support domestic, livestock, and agricultural activities.

11) Stone retaining wall (contributing; c.1900 or earlier), **Photo 26**
Description: A fieldstone retaining wall, 94 feet in total length, that varies in height from 1' to approximately 3'. It is east of the Cistern House and Smokehouse at the top of the river bank before the site slopes down to South Grape Creek.

Significance: The stone retaining wall is an architectural extension of stone fencing, a common practice among German rural homesteads in the Texas Hill Country. Its presence denotes a need to terrace the sloping site to protect the homestead from erosion. Additionally, the terraced area may have supported garden beds.

12) Board and batten cabin (contributing; c. 1900), **Photos 27-28**
Description: The one-room board and batten cabin is on the east side of South Grape Creek and approximately 400 feet southeast of the Barsch Family cemetery. It is set on a stone foundation and the gable roof is covered with standing seam metal. The roof extends to cover a deep screened porch that runs the full width of the south elevation. On the north, east and west elevations, there are solid, hinged panels that can be raised for ventilation and light. Interior screens are mounted inside the cabin. There is also a 6-over-6 window at the east corner of the north elevation. Entry to the porch is through a screen door, and to the house through a simple paneled door flanked by 6-over-6 wood sash windows. The board and batten walls are a single thickness and the supporting framework is exposed on the interior. The cabin is unpartitioned and has a wood-burning stove.

Significance: This small cabin was likely used to house seasonal laborers. Although it has beds, the cabin is primarily used for storage.

13) Barsch Family cemetery (contributing site; 1893), **Photo 29**
Description: The Barsch Family cemetery is east of South Grape Creek across from the Barsch compound. The cemetery measures approximately 60 by 20 feet and is surrounded by a modern chain link fence. Four graves are marked with upright red granite stones and are covered with gravel and concrete. They are separated by concrete pathways. The burials are as follows: Augusta Barsch (1868-1912); Karl Otto Barsch (1862- 1937); Anna Rosine Barsch (1828-1893); Karl Friederich Barsch (1825- 1911).

Significance: This small family cemetery is typical of rural 19th century burial grounds associated with isolated homesteads. While many of these early cemeteries have lost their context or are no longer visible, the Barsch Family cemetery retains its integrity of setting and design.

Integrity

The Feller-Barsch Homestead retains excellent historical and architectural integrity. It is at its original location in a rural setting with agricultural fields to the west and sloping pastures with native grasses and trees to the east beyond South Grape Creek. Though the agricultural land is not cultivated, it supplies an open vista to the compound from Luckenbach Road. At the time of this nomination, the creek flows robustly, and though the original crossing is no longer used, the ford and road leading to it are still visible. The setting preserves its association with rural homesteads. Materials, design, and workmanship are clear in utilitarian and residential resources on the property and reflect the local vernacular building traditions of German Texans that utilized fachwerk construction, native stone, and timber.

The c.1852 Feller-Barsch House was built in three phases that show evolving methods of construction using fachwerk and masonry techniques and lean-to additions that were common to area in the mid-to-late 19th century. Otto Barsch's house, likely built c. 1911, reflects early 20th century popular architectural design in bungalow-style and mail order metal cladding. Together, the two houses—one dating from the mid-19th century and another from the early 20th century—are tangible reminders of the evolution of building techniques and lifestyles in rural Gillespie County. Utilitarian buildings—the cistern house, sheds, and smokehouse—and structures, like the stone retaining wall, are intact and communicate the self-sufficiency of a 19th and 20th century agricultural homestead. The distinctively-red granite headstones in the Barsch Family cemetery show good integrity of materials, workmanship, design, and setting. Scholarly research identified the type of headstones present as fitting within the local historic context of funerary monuments in the material culture of German Texans of the era. Alterations to historic materials and design are minimal and, overall, the nominated district retains excellent historic and architectural integrity.

Statement of Significance

The Feller-Barsch Homestead is an intact cluster of buildings in Central Texas that reflects the German heritage of the region's settlers from the mid-19th century to the early 20th century. William Feller immigrated to Gillespie County from Germany with the *Adelsverein* (German Immigration Company). He was one of many young men who left Germany in the 1840s and 1850s to pursue a new life in the United States and settled in the Texas Hill Country. In 1852, Feller acquired 200 acres of rural land which he cleared and constructed a house and farm structures using native materials. Feller and his wife had seven children and in addition to farming, he played an active role in a tight-knit enclave that became known as the South Grape Creek community. After Feller's murder in 1864, his wife sold the property to another German immigrant, Carl Barsch. Barsch, his wife, and their eight children cultivated the land and constructed more buildings to support that work. After the property transferred to Barsch's son, Otto, in 1911, he built a new house where he and his descendants lived until 1980.

The structures preserved today on the Feller-Barsch Homestead illustrate the evolution of small family-owned farms that dominated the economy of Gillespie County for over 100 years. These buildings, constructed by successive generations of two families from approximately 1852 to 1913, include examples of log and *fachwerk* construction—materials commonly used by newly-arrived immigrants in the Texas Hill Country; cut limestone, the material that came into common use as prosperity and construction skills increased; utilitarian buildings of boards hewn from cypress trees growing along nearby creeks and rivers; and manufactured metal siding which became readily available in the early 20th century. The arrangement of the buildings facing a central yard and proximity to a reliable water source, South Grape Creek, are indicative of rural farms in mid-to-late 19th century Texas. The bungalow house, built c. 1911, reflects early 20th popular architecture tastes and shows a gradual cultural assimilation of several generations German Texans. The Hill family bought the Feller-Barsch Homestead in 1989, and the adjoining Gellerman and Basse properties in 1989 and 2006, respectively. Without the addition of modern infill, the Feller-Barsch Homestead retains the character-defining features of a Central Texas German agricultural property.

The Feller-Barsch Homestead is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A (local level) in the area of Ethnic Heritage: German, as an excellent example of a small family agricultural homestead established by immigrant German settlers to Gillespie County in the 19th century. It is also nominated under Criterion C (local level) in the area of Architecture because the Feller-Barsch Homestead is an excellent example of the architectural style and building techniques characteristic of 19th century German Texan vernacular architecture in Central Texas. The period of significance is 1852-1913, which reflects the architectural significance of the nominated district.

The Feller Family and 19th Century German Immigration to Texas[10]

Native Americans were only inhabitants of the land that includes Gillespie County until 1846 when immigrants associated with the *Adelsverein*, a company organized to set up a German colony in Texas, arrived at the site of today's Fredericksburg. Led by John O. Meusebach, these colonists were to settle the Fisher-Miller grant northwest of Fredericksburg. That area proved unsustainable due to its remote location, rugged terrain, and likelihood of Indian attacks. Most German immigrants therefore remained in or near Fredericksburg, New Braunfels, and other small towns close to San Antonio. Those who stayed in the Fredericksburg vicinity petitioned the Texas legislature in late 1847 to

[10] Nineteenth century German settlement in Texas is a widely-recognized phenomena that scholars and avocational historians have documented for decades—from Rudolph Biesels' 1930 *The History of German Settlements in Texas, 1831-1861* to Kenneth Hafertepe's *The Material Culture of German Texans* that was published in 2016. Dozens of National Register-listed properties document also the German experience in Texas Hill Country counties—like Gillespie, Comal, Kendall, and Bexar—where German settlement concentrated. The nomination presented herein benefitted from the expertise of Kenneth Hafertepe whose visit the Feller-Barsch Homestead provided insight into its architectural history.

establish a new county. Among the petition signers was Wilhelm Feller who later bought the nominated property. In February 1848, Gillespie County was created from Travis and Bexar counties.[11]

In 1850, the first U.S. Census of Texas counted the local population and found that Gillespie County's predominant cultural group was German. Wilhelm (William) Feller (1826-1864) was typical of young German immigrants who settled the Texas Hill Country in the middle 19th century. After arriving in Texas as a single man, he married a German woman, and bought land to farm near an established community. He also became a naturalized American citizen in 1855.[12]

William Feller arrived in Galveston from Dillenburg, Nassau, with his mother Maria (Mary) and brother, Carl (Charles), in October 1845. The family traveled with other immigrants to Fredericksburg where they bought Town Lot 58 and built a house. Mary lived in Fredericksburg while Charles and William farmed land on the Pedernales River and, after Carl's marriage, on Bear Creek. William married Clara Ressmann (1832-1930) in February 1850, and in January 1852, the couple purchased 200 acres of the Francisco de Leon Survey 19 on South Grape Creek. Heinrich Basse and Ferdinand Gellerman bought adjoining portions of the de Leon Survey in January 1852 and April 1852.[13]

The Feller Family on South Grape Creek: 1852-1867

The South Grape Creek community where the Feller family settled was, like Gillespie County in general, largely German in composition. Situated in the part of the county served by the South Grape Creek post office, the scattered community included 71 families forming approximately 400 individuals when enumerated on the 1860 United States census.[14] (The post office was renamed Luckenbach in 1886 for Minnie Engel Luckenbach, who opened the facility in 1854.) Jefferson Morganthaler, in his extensive writings about Germans in the Texas Hill Country, referred to the loosely-formed settlement as "a string of farms that might be thought of as a single community."[15]

The scattered community was situated in the drainage of Grape Creek near the Pinta Trail, a trade route first traversed by Native Americans in the 1600s, used by Spanish explorers in the 1700s, and then by German immigrants migrating

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[11] Martin Donnell Kohout, "Gillespie County," *Handbook of Texas Online.* http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/hcg04, accessed March 24, 2015; Rudolph Leopold Biesele, *The History of German Settlements in Texas*, Published by the German Texan Heritage Society (Ann Arbor: McNaughton & Gunn, 1987) 146-147.

[12] United States Bureau of the Census, 1850, Gillespie County, Texas; Chester W. and Ethel H. Geue, *A New Land Beckoned* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Com., Inc., 1982), 78, 92, 95; Gillespie County Historical Society, *Pioneers in God's Hills* (Volume 1, Austin: Von Boeckmann-Jones, 1960), 5-7 . Ferdinand Gellermann also followed this same settlement pattern, while Heinrich Basse, who was a minister, arrived with his wife and six children. Ferdinand Gellermann (1820-1899) and Heinrich (Henry) Basse (1804-1865) were also enumerated on the 1850 census. The three men all purchased adjoining tracts of land along South Grape Creek in 1852. Ferdinand Gellerman was granted citizenship in late 1852 and Carl Barsch in 1869 (Index to Naturalization Records of Gillespie County, Texas, The TXGenweb Project, http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txgilles/gi-nateh.htm, accessed March 5, 2015).

[13] Geue (*A New Land)*, 92, 95; United States Bureau of the Census, 1850, Gillespie County, Texas; Gillespie County Marriage Records (GCMR), 1:1, License #12, February 8, 1850; GCDR C:284, (Hays and Lewis to Feller, January 10, 1852; GCDR C:232, January 10, 1852; GCDR, C:306, April 5, 1852; Gillespie County Historical Society (1960), Volume 1, 5-7; 40-41; 260; "Mrs. Clara Feller," http://genealogytrails.com/tex/ hillcountry/gillespie/bios.html#clarafeller, accessed March 28, 2015; Don H. Biggers, *German Pioneers in Texas*. (Fredericksburg: Fredericksburg Publishing Co., 1925), 72-79. Town Lot 58 appears spelled incorrectly as "Faeller." Heinrich Basse was a minister who later became a merchant and farmer to support his family (Geue, (*A New Land)*5-7). Ferdinand Gellerman was a farmer (Geue, 88).

[14] United States Bureau of the Census, 1860, Gillespie County, Texas; Biesele, 163, 169-170. Biesele estimated that the population of Gillespie County's white population in 1860 was 75% German.

[15] Jefferson Morganthaler. *The German Settlement of the Texas Hill Country* (Boerne: Mockingbird Books, 2007), 105.

north from San Antonio and New Braunfels in the 1800s. Though Grapetown and Luckenbach became the area's social and commercial centers, most settlers built their homes amid fields situated on fertile plateaus above the creek that were conducive to farming and protected from flooding. In the case of the nominated property, the Feller's chose to build near the Gellerman, and Basse families. This was typical of unplanned settlements established by German immigrant farmers throughout fertile Hill Country valleys. According to Terry Jordan, the earliest examples of this type of settlement are near Fredericksburg. Writing about German settlement patterns, Jordan described them as "nothing more than loose agglomerations of farmhouses interspersed by unoccupied interfluves [higher ground between two waterways]." [16]

In 2019, scattered farm complexes are still standing throughout the area. Both the Lower South Grape School (RTHL 1994; NRHP 2005) and Luckenbach School (NRHP 2005) have been restored and the "town" of Luckenbach (Texas Historical Marker, 1986), made famous by Waylon Jennings and Willie Nelson, continues to attract visitors. There is no comprehensive survey of standing resources in the area.[17]

William and Clara Feller began to farm their land soon after buying it. According to the 1852 Gillespie County tax rolls, they had 25 head of cattle and one wagon valued at $580. From that time, and continuing for over 100 years, the Fellers and their successors in title maintained the small farm, adapting to the changing economic and social conditions of Gillespie County.[18]

The United States non-population census for 1860 recorded Feller's 200-acre farm including 34 improved and 166 unimproved acres valued at $1,000. The Fellers kept horses (3), milk cows (22), working oxen (10) and swine (15) as well as "other cattle" (50) valued at $890. Their farm equipment was modest, valued at only $100. Wheat and butter were the Fellers's primary products, but they also grew Indian corn and sweet potatoes.[19]

William and Clara Feller had seven children—Marie (b.1851), Augusta (b. 1853), Clara (b. 1855), Emma (b. 1857), Rosa (b. 1859), and twins, Herman, and Louisa (b. 1861). All of the children, except Marie, were born after the couple bought the land on South Grape Creek. August Hoffman, an orphaned teenager who worked as a freighter, also lived with the family. It is likely that Feller made additions to the original fachwerk and log house to accommodate his growing family.[20]

After William Feller was naturalized in 1855, he became involved in county affairs. He was chosen a county commissioner in 1858 and also served as a justice of the peace. Feller opposed slavery and spoke out against mobs like the *Haengerbande* (hanging band), led by J.P. Waldrip. On March 9, 1864, Waldrip and his followers murdered William Feller and his neighbors, John Blank, Peter Burg, and a man named Kirchner. Most histories of Gillespie County recount this notorious incident.[21]

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[16] *Handbook of Texas Online*, Glen E. Lich and Brandy Schnautz, "Luckenbach, TX.," accessed February 07, 2019, http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/hnl48. *Handbook of Texas Online*, Jefferson Morgenthaler, "Pinta Trail, ," accessed February 06, 2019, http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/ayp02; Morganthaler (*German Settlement*), 105;
[17] The last historic resources survey was completed in 1988. It was a selective study of rural German farms near the nominated property but did not include the Feller-Barsch Farm. See Bess Althaus Graham, "A Photographic Survey of Rural Gillespie County, Texas" (MA Fellowship Project, University of Texas, Austin, 1988).
[18] Gillespie County Tax Rolls, microfilm collection, San Antonio Public Library Texana/Genealogy Department. Gellermann had 24 head of cattle, one horse and one wagon valued at $510 and Basse had 25 head of cattle and one wagon.
[19] Non-Population Schedules, 1850-1880, Gillespie County, Texas. http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=1276, accessed on March 21, 2015.
[20] *Pioneers in God's Hills, vol. 2, 38-40.*
[21] Biggers, 76-77; *Pioneers in God's Hills*, vol. 2, 39

Clara Feller was left with young children and no way to sustain her farm. In her reminiscences, she recalled the title to the farm was defective, encumbering its sale.[22] A suit involving the land was pending before the Texas Supreme Court. In 1867, unable to supply a clear title, Feller petitioned the Gillespie County Probate Court for permission to sell the property. It was argued that even if she prevailed in the case, "she with little ones be not able to till a field, make fences, and that therefore the premises would become more and more worthless."[23] An arrangement was proposed whereby the property would be purchased and interest from annual payments be used to support the Feller's widow and children. It allowed the potential purchaser to occupy and maintain the property and pay $250 for a clear title when the case was resolved in Clara Feller's favor. Carl F. Barsch and his brother-in-law, Franz Wehmeyer purchased Clara Feller's 200-acre property in February 1867, and each received a final deed for 100 acres from Feller in December 1872 [24]

The Feller-Barsch Homestead: 1867-1911

Carl Friedrich Barsch (1825-1911) arrived in Texas in October 1853 with his wife Anna Rosine Weihmann (1828-1893), son Gottlieb, father-in-law Gottlieb Weihmann and sister-in-law, Julieanne Weihmann. Julieanne (1831-1917) married the Barsch's neighbor, Franz Wehmeyer (1825-1870), and the Barsch and Wehmeyer families farmed and lived side by side on South Grape Creek for many years. After Franz Wehmeyer's death in 1870, it is assumed that Carl Barsch helped run the adjoining farm until Julieanne Wehmeyer's children were old enough to help.[25]

Carl and Anna Barsch had three children—Gotlieb (b. 1855), Karl Otto (b. 1862), and Ida (b. 1865)—all born before they bought the Feller's property. The house that had accommodated the large Feller family would have certainly been adequate for the smaller Barsch family. But while it seems logical that the Feller's enlarged the original house, it is also possible that the additions happened under Barsch's ownership.

Carl Barsch continued to work the farm in much the same way as the Feller family. In 1870 the farm encompassed 18 "improved" acres and 82 acres of "woodland," and was valued at $400. Barsch's livestock, consisting of horses (2), milk cows (8), working oxen (10), swine (2), and "other cattle" (15), was valued at $270, and his equipment at $92. Most of the work was done by family members as shown by the fact that only $30 was paid in wages. The farm's output in 1870, valued at $738, included winter wheat, rye, corn, sweet potatoes and hay, molasses, and butter. The major products were wheat, Indian corn, and butter.[26]

By 1880, the farm had increased in value from $400 to $1,600. This reflected the fact that Barsch had expanded his property to include 50 cultivated acres and 318 unimproved acres. He was shifting the farm from cultivated crops to livestock and chickens. This is reflected in the increase in livestock value from $270 to $600. His livestock herd had grown to include 7 mules, 10 milk cows, 12 calves, 30 working oxen, 10 "other cattle," and 10 swine. Barsch continued to grow Indian corn and oats, but also began growing cotton. The farm's egg and butter production were large. Overall, however, the value of farm's output had decreased to $150, reflecting the severe drought of 1879. One notable change was the fact that Barsch hired white laborers for 32 weeks. [27]

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[22] Biggers, 77.
[23] Gillespie County Probate Court Records, C:429-430.
[24] GCDR H:507-508 (Feller to Barsch and Wehmeyer, February 7, 1867); L:455 (Feller to Barsch, December 21, 1872); 9:448 (Wehmeyer to Wehmeyer, August 4, 1896); United States Bureau of the Census, 1870, Gillespie County, Texas; GCDR L:455, (Feller to Barsch, December 21, 1872); 9:448 (Wehmeyer to Wehmeyer, August 4, 1896).
[25] Ethel Hander Geue, *New Homes In a New Land.* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, Inc., 1982), 57.
[26] Non-Population Schedules, 1850-1880, Gillespie County, Texas. http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=1276, accessed on March 21, 2015.
[27]Ibid; Terry G. Jordan. *German Seed in Texas Soil: Immigrant Farmers in Nineteenth-Century Texas* (Austin: University of Texas Press,1966) 119.

Production figures for the Feller-Barsch farm are fairly consistent with those analyzed by Terry G. Jordan in his study of 19th century immigrant farmers and farming in Gillespie and nearby counties. The main crops grown by William Feller in 1860—wheat and corn—were those most commonly cultivated in the area at that time. Jordan reported that, by 1860, wheat "became an almost universal crop among Germans of Gillespie County."[28] It is possible that Feller's yield would have been higher had there not been a drought in 1859. By the time of the non-population census was reported in 1870, wheat and corn were still the leading crops, though rye and oats had been introduced to the area. Carl Barsch followed this trend and was growing rye by 1870. By 1880, he was also growing oats as well as cotton which had become a common crop in Gillespie County, Finally, though details about the Barsch's kitchen garden are lacking, one notable crop they did not grow was white potatoes, a staple of the German diet. They did, however, grow sweet potatoes, which were far more common to early German farms in Texas.[29]

The Feller-Barsch livestock holdings were also typical of the area's farms. Early German settlers could better afford oxen as compared with horses. Between 1870 and 1880, Carl Barsch's herd of oxen grew, while he only bought one more horse. This was counter to statistics for the area as a whole which saw a decline in the number of oxen overall due to their unsuitability to farm equipment.[30]

The Feller-Barsch Homestead: 1911-1939

Anna Barsch died in 1893 at the age of 65. A joint will signed by Anna and her husband the previous year gave the surviving spouse "sole use, management and control of all our property." The will further stipulated that after the survivor's death, the property was divided among the surviving children. Their son, Karl Otto (known as Otto) (1862-1937), inherited "the farm now occupied by us containing about 100 acres of land…on the waters of South Grape Creek, with improvements thereon." The bequest also included "all farm implements, wagon, ambulance, together with the work animals, mares, and their increase."[31]

After his wife's death, Carl continued to farm with Otto's help. Otto had married Auguste Hoffmann (1886-1912) in March 1891. Reflective of the tight-knit Grape Creek community, Auguste was the daughter of August Hoffman, who had lived with and worked on the farm in the 1860s and 1870s with the Feller family. Otto and Auguste and their eight children lived with Carl and ran the farm as he grew older. In 1910, Carl Barsch who was 84, still lived with his son, daughter-in-law, and their children who ranged in age from four to 17. The oldest children, Ernst and Charles, worked as laborers on the farm. As dictated in his parent's will, Otto inherited the property when Carl died in 1911. The metal-sheathed bungalow on the property appears to date to the first decade of the 1900s, which is consistent with the initial period of Otto's ownership of the property. John Klein, an architect in Gillespie County knowledgeable about the area's historic buildings, cites several rural schools in Gillespie County which show this same "stone faced," galvanized metal siding. Among those are the Pecan Creek School (1916) and the Junction School House (1911), the latter attended by President Lyndon B. Johnson and site of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act in 1965. Klein is not aware of non-rural examples of this building material.[32]

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[28] Jordan (*German Seed*), 127.
[29] Non-Population Schedules, 1850-1880, Gillespie County, Texas. http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=1276, accessed on March 21, 2015; Jordan (*German Seed*), 119, 125, 133, 136-138 .
[30] Jordan (*German Seed*), 142-143.
[31] Gillespie County Probate Records, Vol. 2-3 (1883-1901):97-101. The Barsch's son Gottlieb was given 600 (?) acres and their daughter, Ida Wilke, received $500 and five cows and calves.
[32] United States Federal Census, Gillespie County, Texas, 1900, 1910; Gillespie County Probate Record 390, Carl Barsch. Auguste Hoffmann Barsch was born May 11, 1886 and died December 25, 1912 (Texas State Board of Health, Certificate of Death 27478). Carl (Karl) Friederich Barsch was born May 4, 1825 and died February 10, 1911). He is buried in the Barsch Family Cemetery located on the nominated property. Otto Barsch first married Helene Hollmig in Gillespie County in July 1885 (Gillespie County

Auguste Barsch died in 1912 only one year after Otto's father. Otto continued to live on the farm, and in 1920, his children—Walter (24), Eddie (22), Lydia (21), Henry (16), and Thekla (14) were living with him. Lydia (1898-1994) married Walter Kuhlmann (1898-1988) in 1923, and by 1930, they lived with Otto and farmed the family's property. Lydia's brother, Walter Barsch, leased another part of his father's land. All of Lydia's other siblings had moved off the farm. In his will dated August 8, 1935, Otto Barsch referred to cotton grown on the property as well grain and forage. He valued his farm, which at that time totaled 143 acres, at $10,000. He also referenced buildings and other improvements erected by Lydia and Walter Kuhlman and his son, Walter. When Otto Barsch died in 1937, his family buried him in the small family cemetery across South Grape Creek next to his parents and wife (Figure 5).[33]

According to Ruby Kuhlmann, a relative of both the Barsch and Kuhlmann families, Otto incurred debt in his later years, which may have led to his suicide in 1937. The farm was foreclosed on and sold by the Gillespie County sheriff in 1939. The property left the extended Barsch/Kuhlmann family for only a few days. August S. Faltin bought the property on auction, but he at once sold it to Otto Barsch's daughter and son-in-law, Lydia Barsch Kuhlmann and her husband, Walter. Otto's death caused a rift in the family that lasted for many years. Ms. Kuhlmann recalled that it was fifteen to twenty years before the Barsch and Kuhlmann children reconciled.[34]

The Feller-Barsch Homestead: 1940- 2018

Walter and Lydia Barsch Kuhlmann occupied the homestead for many more years. They lived in the c. 1911 house and raised cattle on the property. In their later years, the Kuhlmann's rented their fields to various lessees, including the Meier family. The property remained in the Kuhlmann family until December 1980 when it was sold to William Faulk (Guich) and Patricia Jackson Koock.[35] The Kuhlmann's stayed on the property while it was owned by the Koock's. Guich-Koock recalls that Mrs. Kuhlmann kept a small garden but that most of the land was used for grazing. He also remembers a fruit tree near the road that Mr. Kuhlmann called a "paaple"—a cross between a pear and an apple. The tree is no longer there.[36]

The Koock's sold the property to Gordon E. Sauer in 1983 after owning it for less than three years. Saur and his wife, Mary Margaret, planted crops and grazed cattle, but made no improvement to the buildings. Again, the Kuhlmann's continued to live on the property. Walter Kuhlmann died in 1988 at the age of 89. Bruce H.C. and Ellen Hill bought

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Marriage Records, D:172). Less than a year later, in March 1886, Helene Hollmig Barsch left her husband and did not return. He filed for divorce which was granted in August 1889 (Gillespie County District Court Records, Cause 567). The couple had a daughter named Matilda. Junction School is included in the Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park.

[33] United States Federal Census, Gillespie County, Texas, 1920, 1930; GCMR, I:165, September 26, 1923; C. Otto Barsch Death Certificate, Texas Bureau of Vital Statistics, Certificate # 8605; Gillespie County Probate Record, Otto Barsch; E-mail correspondence, John Klein to Maria Pfeiffer, February 1, 2019. .

[34] GCDR 52:118 (Klaerner to Faltin, November 10, 1939); GCDR 52:128 (Faltin to Kuhlmann, November 13, 1939); Ruby Kuhlmann, "Barsch Family History," unpublished typescript, n.d. Ruby Kuhlmann's parents were Herbert Kuhlmann and Lina Barsch Kuhlmann,

[35] Kuhlmann, n.p.; GCDR 140:116 (Kuhlmann to Koock, December 31, 1980). The South Grape Creek post office was renamed in 1886 for Minnie Engel Luckenbach who opened the facility there in 1854. The small town, comprised of a store, dance hall, and saloon remained in the Engel family until it was purchased by Crouch and Koock (*.Handbook of Texas Online*, Glen E. Lich and Brandy Schnautz, "Luckenbach, TX." accessed February 07, 2019, http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/hnl48.)

[35] Koock, an actor and writer, partnered with John Russell (Hondo) Crouch in 1971 to purchase the nearby town of Luckenbach made famous by Waylon Jenning's song, "Luckenbach, Texas. E-mail correspondence, Koock to Pfeiffer, October 11, 2018. (*Handbook of Texas Online*, Glen E. Lich and Brandy Schnautz, "Luckenbach, TX," http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/hnl48. accessed October 03, 2018). The small town, comprised of a store, dance hall, and saloon remained in the Engel family until it was purchased by Crouch and Koock.

[36] e-mail correspondence, Koock to Pfeiffer, October 11, 2018.

the homestead the following. The Hill's repaired and kept the buildings, making no changes to their historic appearance. Except for the modern tractor shed, the structures retain their historical and architectural integrity. In 2018, the Hill family uses the property, together with the adjoining Gellerman and Basse farms, as a family retreat.[37]

Criterion C/Architecture

The Feller-Barsch Homestead includes representative examples of rural building types found on German family farms throughout the Texas Hill Country from the 19th to early 20th centuries. Readily available materials such as trees cut and sawn on or near the building sites as well as limestone were the most common materials used by pioneer settlers in their earliest structures. These materials are in the oldest part of the Feller-Barsch house (Resource 4) as well as the smokehouse (Resource 3) and log building (Resource 8). The next generation of buildings reflected the maturation of the first generation of settlers. It incorporated larger limestone blocks—both rusticated and smooth-finished— and stone was also used for building foundations. The Feller-Barsch cistern (Resource 2) illustrates the sophisticated use of smooth-finished stone. Because of its high-quality construction, it might be argued that the original purpose of this enigmatic building was residential rather than utilitarian, but this is only speculation. While stone barns and well houses were constructed throughout the Texas Hill Country in the 19th century, by the early 20th century, utilitarian buildings were more commonly built of lumber, often long-lasting cypress. The 1 and 2-story barns (Resources 5 and 6) are representative examples of this construction.

The Feller-Barsch House is the oldest surviving building on the property. It is an excellent example of construction methods German immigrants used in the first decades of settlement in Gillespie County and the Texas Hill Country region. The house was built in three phases **(Figure 6)** as shown by three methods of construction: the central log house, a stone masonry addition, and a fachwerk addition. According to historian Kenneth Hafertepe, the center portion is the oldest. It is "a German-Texan version" of the Anglo-American log house in which horizontal logs alternate with rock set in hard mortar.[38] His studies show the log method of building construction was popular in German-Texan communities in the 1850s but fell out of favor after the Civil War. Its one-room plan was also common. The original section of the Feller-Barsch house faced east with centered doors on the east (originally the front) and west elevations; single window openings were on the north and south elevations.

The first addition (Phase 2), one-room at the west elevation with a lean-to roof, also corresponded with local building trends. Hafertepe states, "When it came time to expand a one-room house, German-Texan builders opted for stone…The most popular way to add to a one-room house was to attach a second, smaller room to the rear, which gave the house the familiar saltbox plan."[39] The location of the chimney on this section suggests the addition was used as a kitchen. Phase 2 shows the popularity of stone masonry construction among German Texans post-Civil War. Phase 3 **(Photo 15)** demonstrates *fachwerk* construction. The method, Hafertepe argued, had a local resurgence in popularity in the 1870s that he attributed to a period of rising German pride in their homeland culture.[40] The building method is characterized by half-timbering—typically running diagonally from sill to plate—fitted together with mortise and tenon joinery as framing and stone, brick, or wattle and daub used as infill.[41]

By the early 20th century, changing architectural styles, coupled with the availability of mail order kits and manufactured materials, influenced the next generation of family farmers. This is illustrated in the Otto Barsch house (Resource 1), a bungalow clad in stone-embossed galvanized steel siding. The house represents both the technological

[37] GDCR 153:586 (Koock to Sauer, May 31, 1983); GCDR 194:575 (Sauer to Hill, September 15, 1989); e-mail correspondence, Sauer to Pfeiffer, October 5, 2018.
[38] Hafertepe, 59.
[39] Hafertepe, 38.
[40] Hafertepe, 75.
[41] Kenneth Hafertepe, *The Material Culture of German Texans* (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2016), 74.

and generational evolution of architecture in the Texas Hill Country. Whereas Otto Barsch's ancestors constructed their early buildings of sturdy, readily available materials such as wood and stone, the younger Barsch had access to manufactured materials including pressed metal, believed at the time to be both more modern and more durable. Manufacturers of metal ornament, like sheet metal siding, advertised in nationally-published catalogues and promoted the ease of its transportation by rail and transported by motorized vehicles for assembling to remote building sites across the country.[42] Various local suppliers of metal roofing, shingles, and siding marketed their goods in Gillespie County, and these businesses included: Joe Stein, the Kolmeier and Klier Company, and Cain City Lumber Company.[43]

Though no comprehensive architectural survey of Gillespie County has been completed, Beth Althaus Graham's 1988 selective study of the county's rural architecture includes many comparative examples related to those found on the Feller-Barsch Homestead. Among the cited examples are the stone and log August Grobe and Charlie Barsch houses, the frame and stone August Grote smokehouse, and the Hugo Crenwelge and Hilmar Gold frame barns.[44] Hafertepe notes other examples, like the log and stone Charles and Louise Enderlin house, in his study of Fredericksburg and Gillespie County. Hafertepe also references the Sauer-Beckmann Farmstead at LBJ State Park which includes a log structure, frame barn, and house clad in pressed sheet metal siding.[45] In her 1988 work, Graham stressed the need to complete a comprehensive rural survey of Gillespie County, admitting that it "may be years in the making."[46] Over 30 years later, it is clear such a survey is still needed to provide an inventory of standing structures as well as to place the Feller-Barsch Homestead and other sites in the full context of rural Hill Country architecture.

Conclusion

The Feller-Barsch Homestead is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A (local level) in the area of Ethnic Heritage: German as a complex typifying small family farms established by immigrant German settlers throughout the Texas Hill Country in the mid-to-late nineteenth century. It is also nominated under Criterion C (local level) in the area of Architecture as a good example of 19th century rural domestic architecture. The property illustrates the evolutionary history of a homestead that remained in the same extended family from 1867 until 1980. Family members then continued to live on the property until the late 1980s. The mid-19th and early 20th century houses represent changing architectural techniques and styles typical of Texas rural properties. The ancillary buildings, including barns, cistern and smoke house are intact examples of structures that were essential to isolated family farms. The period of significance for the Feller-Barsch Homestead extends from 1862 until 1913, the date of the last documented contributing building constructed on the homestead. During that period, the property was owned by only two families who continuously occupied and farmed the land. With the exception of the c. 1990 tractor shed, all of the buildings and the family cemetery are considered contributing features.

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[42] In the United States, sheet metal ornament was at peak popularity from approximately 1890 to 1910. There were 45 major sheet metal companies in 10 states that distributed their products nationally between 1870-1930. In Texas, the Peden Steel and Iron Company was a major manufacturer of these products, and they had offices in San Antonio. It is not known whether they were the distributer to local Gillespie County businesses. The rockface pattern was popular choice for exterior cladding. For more information on the history of ornamental sheet metal and embossed facades, see Pamela H. Simpson, *Cheap, Quick, and Easy*: Imitative Architectural Materials, 1870-1930 (Knoxville: The University of Tennessee Press, 1999): 30-53.
[43] *Fredericksburg Standard*, January 1, 1916.
[44] Bess Althaus Graham, *A Photographic Survey of Rural Gillespie County*, unpublished manuscript, 1988, 18-19, 23, 40-41, 46-47.
[45] Kenneth Haftertepe, *A Guide to the Historic Buildings of Fredericksburg and Gillespie County* (College Station: Texas A&M Press, 2015) 289-290, 310-311.
[46] Graham, 8.

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"Mrs. Clara Feller," http://genealogytrails.com/tex/ hillcountry/gillespie/bios.html#clarafeller, accessed March 28, 2015.

Personal Communications
Ken Hafertepe to Maria Watson Pfeiffer
Bruce Hill to Maria Watson Pfeiffer
John Klein to Maria Watson Pfeiffer
Guich Koock to Maria Watson Pfeiffer
Gordon Sauer to Maria Watson Pfeiffer

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Texas General Land Office, File 346, Gillespie County.

United States Bureau of the Census, population census, various years.

United States Bureau of the Census, non-population census, various years.

Boundary Description

BEING 103.6 acres of land, more or less, situated in Gillespie County, Texas, being part of the Francisco De Leon Survey No. 19, Abstract No. 388 and being part of that called 100 acre FIRST TRACT of land described in a conveyance to Gordon E. Sauer, by William Faulk Kooch, dated May 31, 1983, found of record in Volume 153, Pages 586-589 of the Deed Records of Gillespie County, Texas.

Said 103.6-acre tract of land is described by metes and bounds as follows, to-wit:

BEGINNING at a steel bar set in fence in the North line of a 127.7 acre tract of land and in the South line of that called 100 acre FIRST TRACT of land described in a conveyance to Gordon E. Sauer by William Faulk Kooch, found of record in Volume 153, Pages 586-589 of the Deed Records of Gillespie County, Texas, 176.8 feet N. 89° 55' W. from it's S.E. corner, for the S.E. corner of this tract of land;

THENCE with fence along the North line of said 127.7 acre tract, N. 89° 55' W., crossing South Grape Creek, 3250.0 feet to a corner post;

THENCE with the North line of said 127.7 acre tract, N. 89' 59' W. 138.2 feet to a fence corner post;

THENCE with fence along the North line of said 127.7 acre tract, N. 89° 54' w. 2545.2 feet to a steel bar found set in the East line of the Luckenbach (County) Road, for the S.W. corner of this tract of land;

THENCE with fence and the East line of the Luckenbach (County) Road, N. 0° 16' W., at 750.5 feet a corner post at end of fence, 764.8 feet in all to a steel bar found set, for the Point of Beginning of a BOUNDARY LINE AGREEMENT between Irmgard K. Muller, et al, and Gordon E. Sauer, et al, dated September 28, 1986, found of record in Volume 176, Pages 723-728 of the Deed Records of Gillespie County, Texas. for the N.W. corner of this tract of land;

THENCE with fence projection and fence along said agreed boundary as ·follows:

S. 89° 44' E., at 31.5 feet a corner post, continuing with fence 2683.9 feet to a steel bar found set;

N. 89° 45' E. 448.0 feet to a steel bar found set;

S. 89° 52' E., crossing South Grape Creek, 547.6 feet to a corner post in concrete, for the end of said agreed boundary, for a corner of this tract of land;

THENCE with fence as follows:

S. 89° 51' E. 1217.6 feet to a corner post;

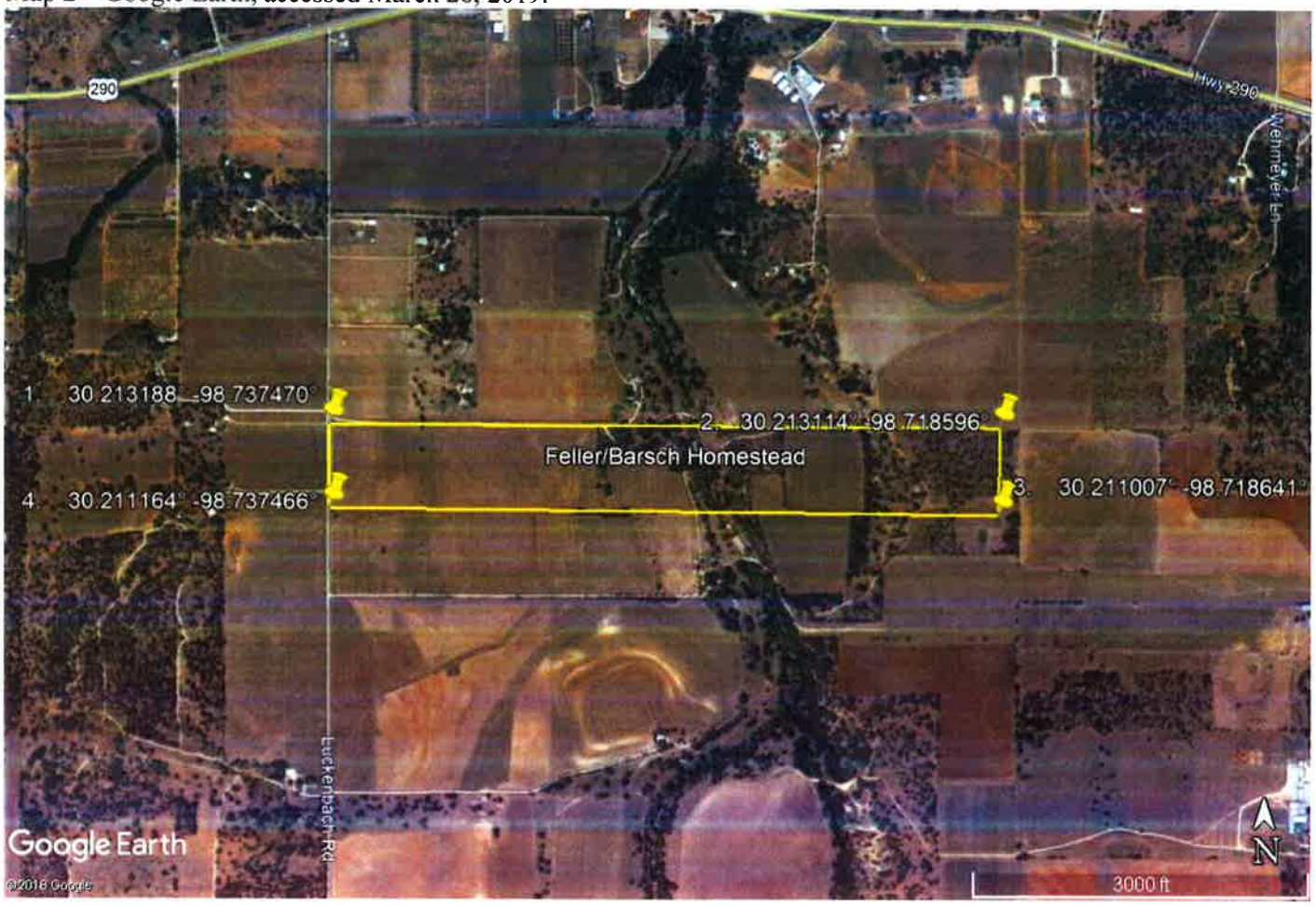
N. 89° 59' E. 1054.4 feet to a steel bar set, for the N.E. corner of this tract of land;

THENCE S. 1° 06' W. 759.4 feet to the place of BEGINNING.

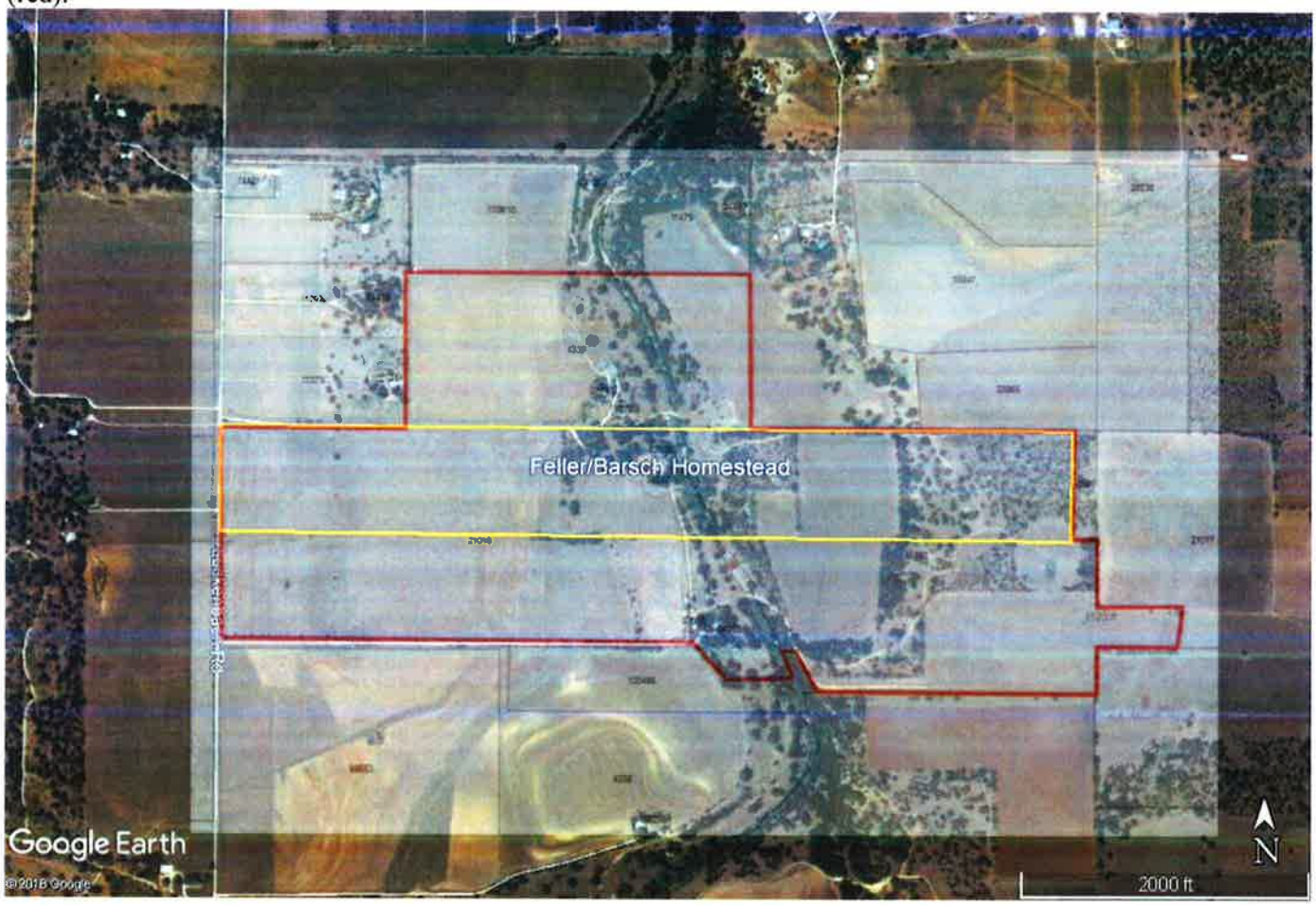
Maps

Map 1—Gillespie County, Texas

Map 2—Google Earth, accessed March 28, 2019.



Map 3: UCAD and Google Earth maps showing nominated boundary (yellow) within current Hill Farm boundary (red).



Map 4: Google Earth (Detail) Map of Resources West of South Grape Creek. Google Earth accessed March 29, 2019.

1. Otto Barsch House
2. Cistern
3. Smokehouse
4. Feller-Barsch House
5. 1-story cypress barn
6. 2-story cypress barn
7. Tractor shed (non-contributing)
8. Log building
9. Loading ramp
10. Well
11. Stone retaining wall

Map 5— Google Earth (Detail) Map of Resources East of South Grape Creek. Overview including property boundaries showing Resources 12 (cabin) and 13 (Barsch Family cemetery). Google Earth accessed March 29, 2019.

Figures

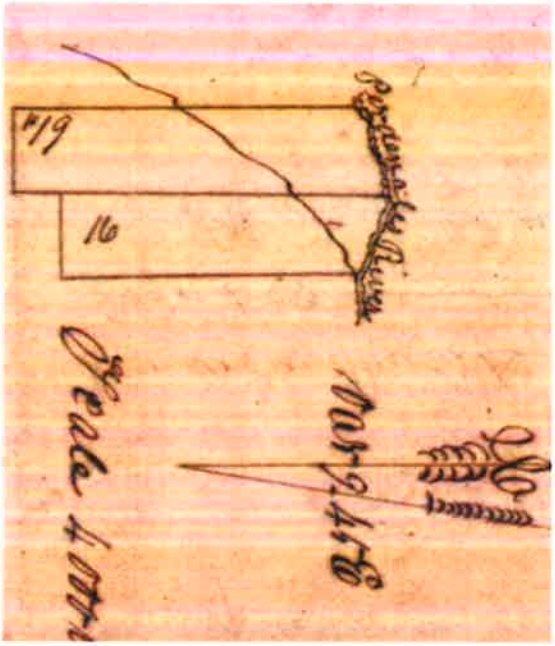


Figure 1. Texas General Land Office Map showing DeLeon (19) and Escamilla (16) Surveys

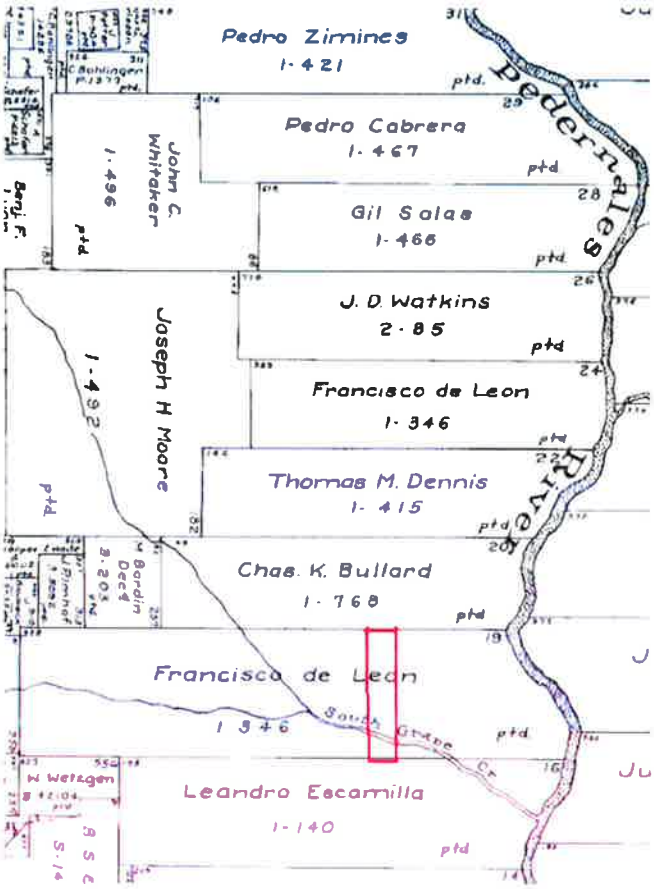


Figure 2. 1880 Survey Map of Gillespie County (detail) outlining 103-acre Feller-Barsch Homestead.

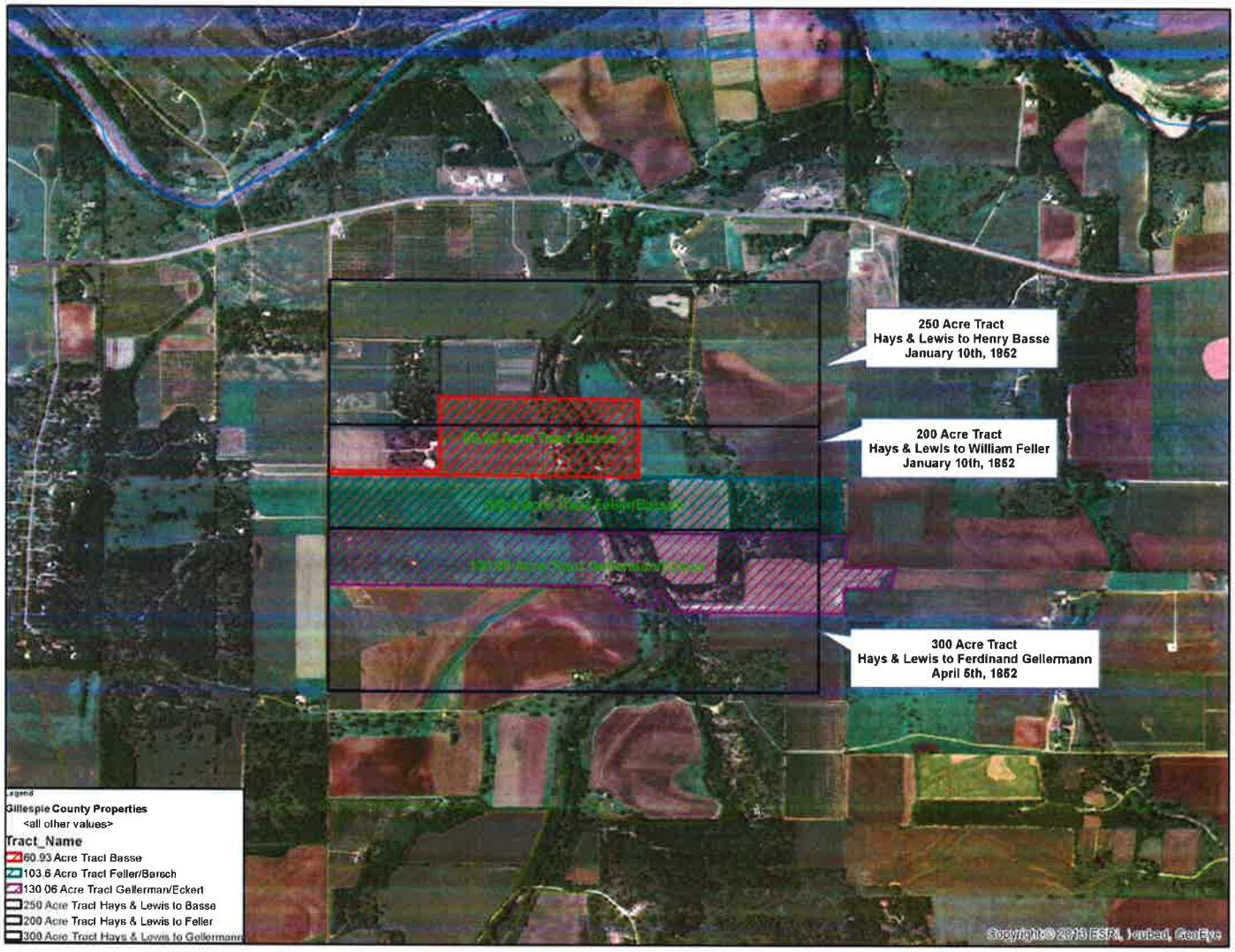


Figure 3. Map delineating the Hill Farm (red, green, and purple shaded areas) cromprised of the Gellerman, Feller-Barsch, and Basse Homesteads within original homestead boundaries (black).

Figure 4. Karl Otto Barsch and his wife, Auguste Wilhelmine Hoffmann Barsch (seated) With children (left to right) Charles, Eddie, Walter, Lydia and Ernst.
c. 1900

Figure 5. Ernst, Karl Otto, Carl Frederick, Walter and Eddie Barsch
Undated photograph

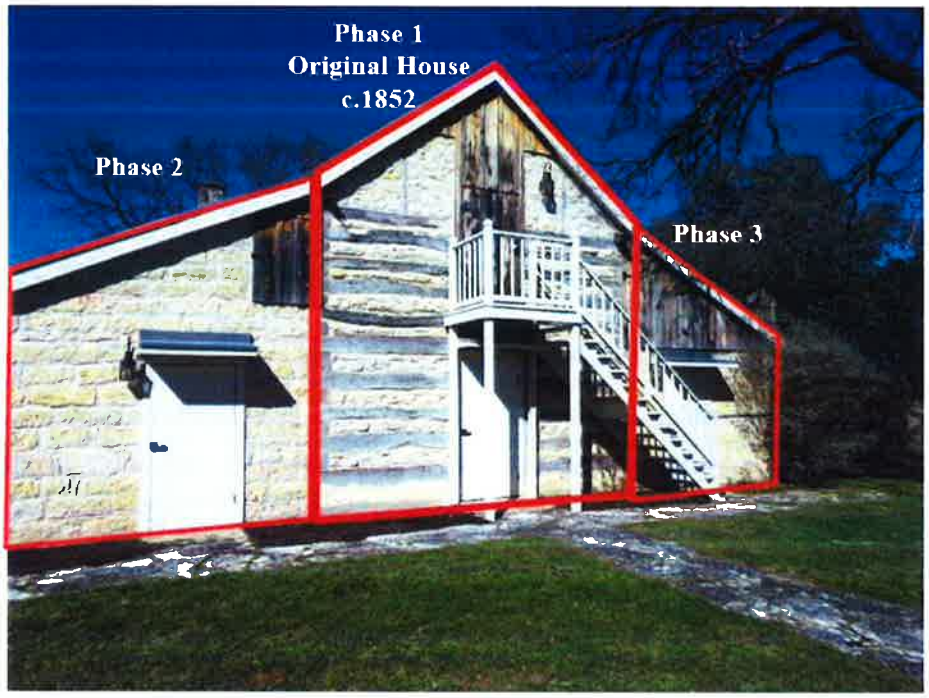


Figure 6. The Feller-Barsch House, like other 19th century German houses in the Texas Hill Country was constructed in phases. According to historian Kenneth Hafertepe, the central portion is the oldest as it is of log construction with rock set in mortar. Phase 2 demonstrates the popularity of stone masonry construction among German Texans post-Civil War. Phase 3 demonstrates *fachwerk* construction which had a local resurgence in popularity in the 1870s.

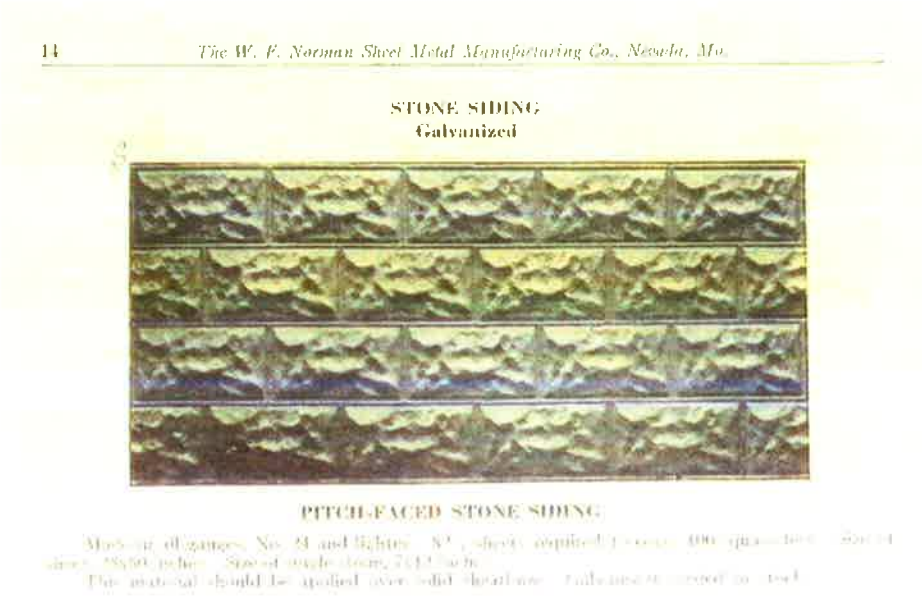


Figure 7. The Otto Barsch House is clad in galvanized sheet metal siding and embossed in a pattern similar to the example shown above in the W.F. Norman Sheet Metal Manufactoring Co. catalog.

Photographs

Feller-Barsch Farm
614 Ellen Lane
Gillespie County, Texas
Photographed by Maria Watson Pfeiffer
February 2019 (exceptions noted)

Photo 1 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0001)
Looking north on Ellen Lane from Luckenbach Road.

Photo 2 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0002)
View looking north from Luckenbach Road.

Photo 3 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0003)
Looking west in farm compound. (2015)

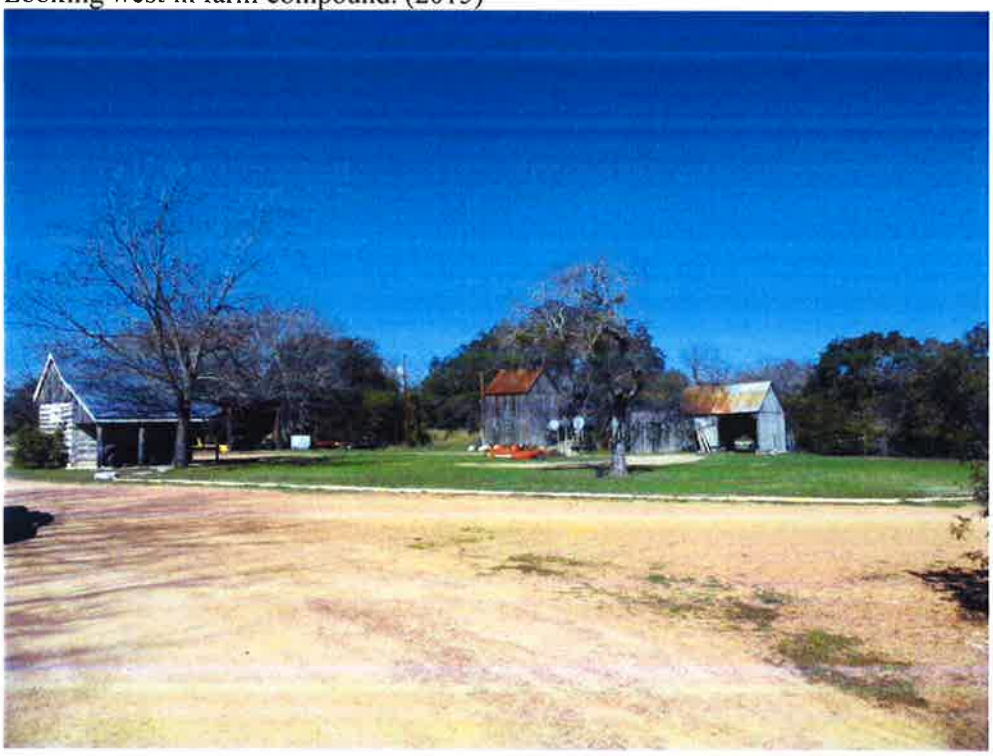


Photo 4 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0004)
Otto Barsch House. North elevation looking south. (2015)

Photo 5 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0005) Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 1) Otto Barsch House. South elevation looking northwest.

Photo 6 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0006) Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 1) Otto Barsch House. Interior looking southwest.

Photo 7 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0007) Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 1) Otto Barsch House. Interior looking east.

Photo 8 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0008) Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 2) Cistern. West and south elevations looking northeast.

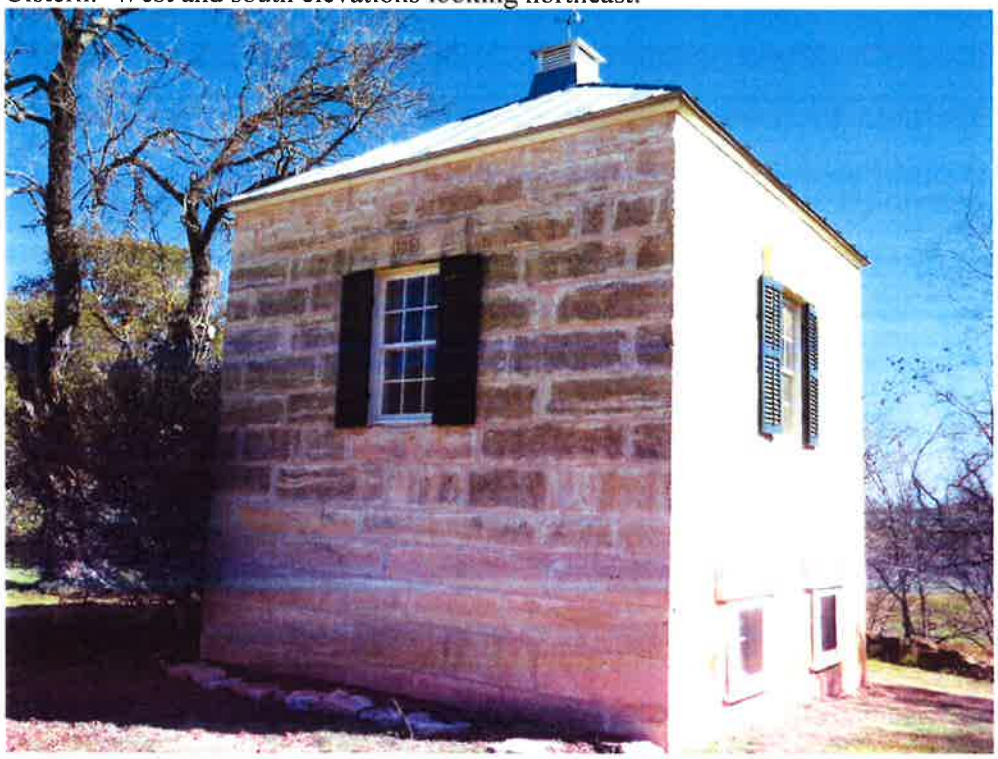


Photo 9 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0009) Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 2) Cistern. East elevation looking west.

Photo 10 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0010) Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 2) Cistern. Interior view of cellar.

Photo 11 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0011) Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 3) Smokehouse. West and south elevations looking northwest.

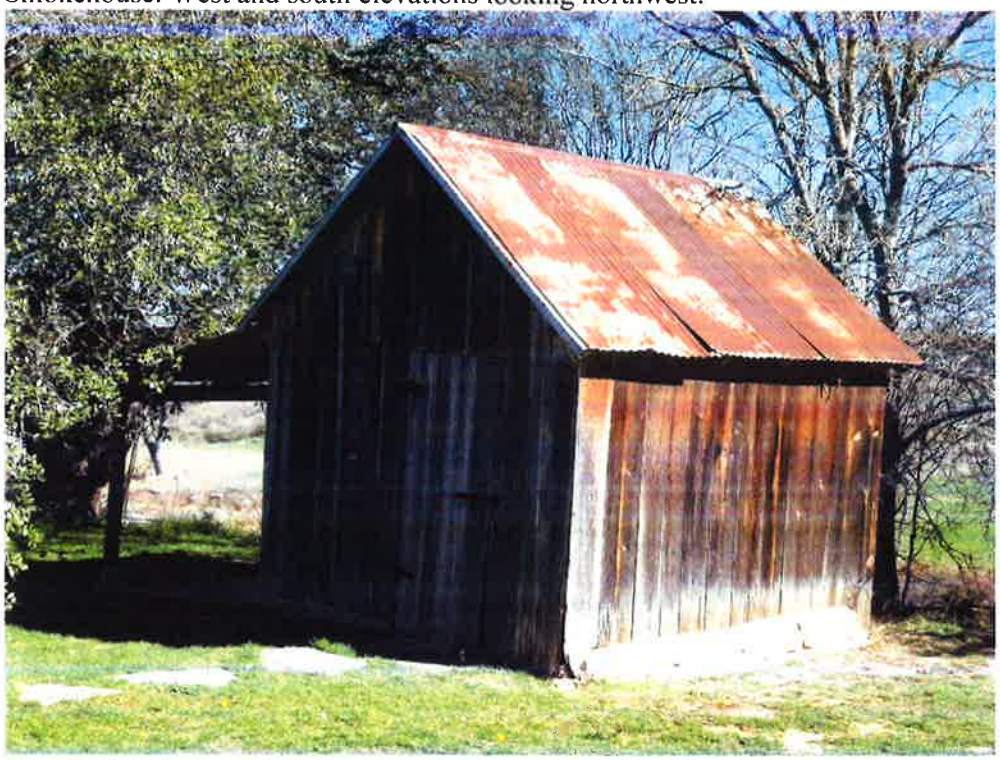


Photo 12 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0012) Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 3) Smokehouse. North elevation looking southeast. (2017)

Photo 13 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0013) Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 3)
Smokehouse. Interior looking east.

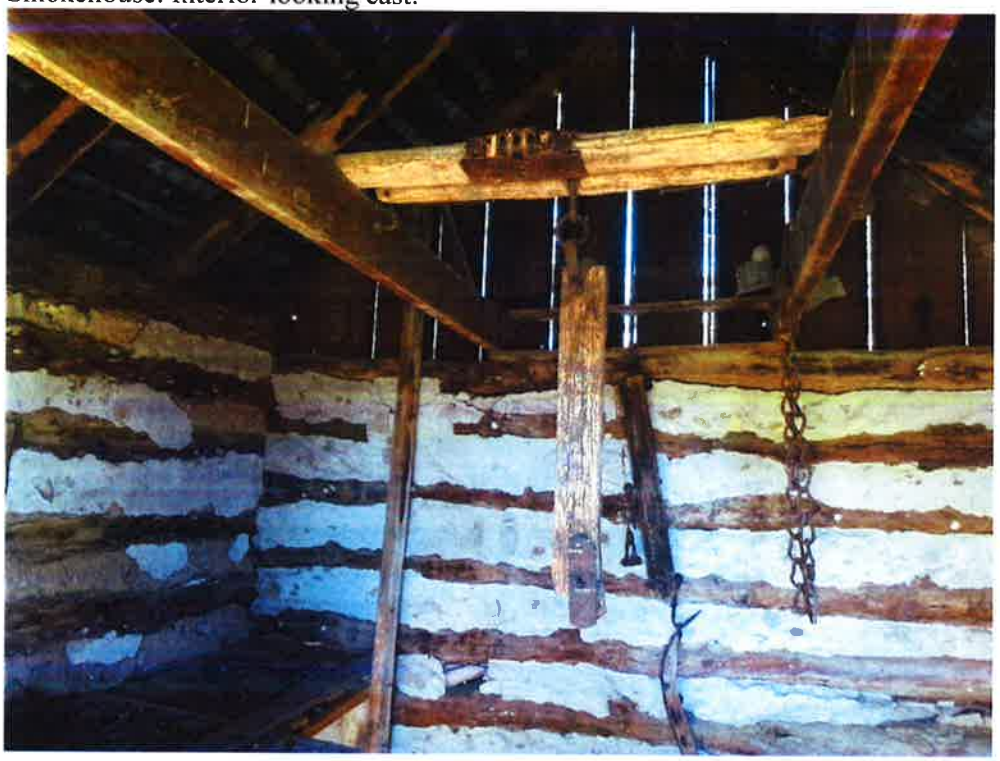


Photo 14 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0014) Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 4)
Feller-Barsch House. South elevation looking north. This is the current primary façade and entrance. The original entrance was on the east elevation.

Photo 15 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0015) Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 4) Feller-Barsch House. North elevation looking southwest.

Photo 16 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0016) Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 4) Feller-Barsch House. Interior looking west showing center and west rooms.

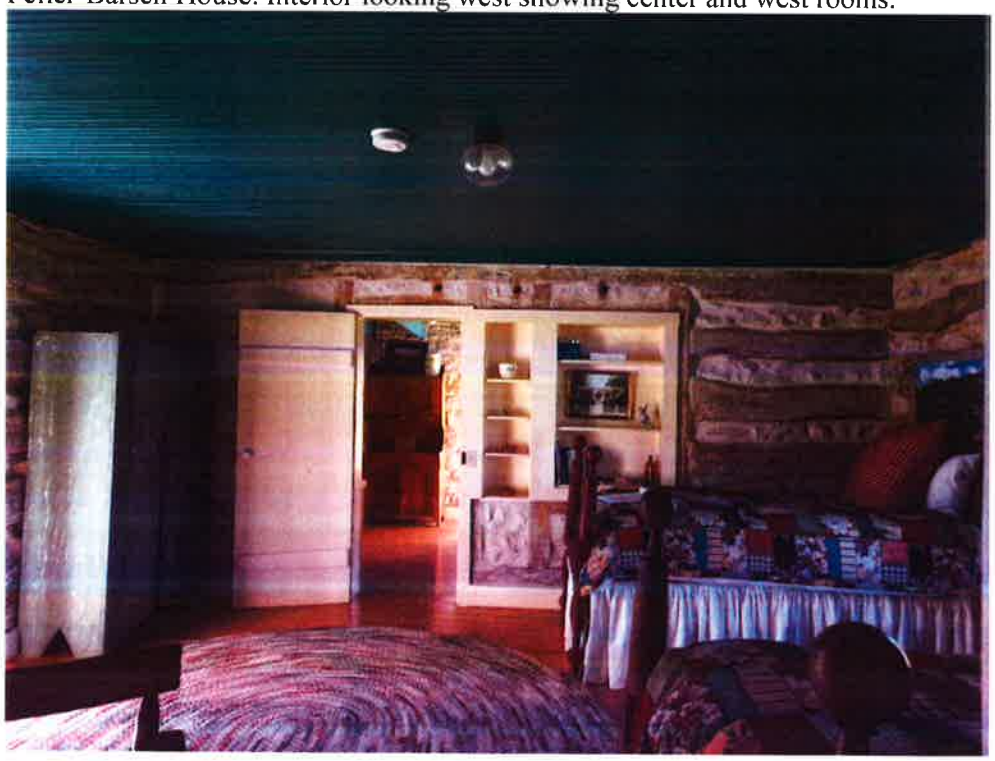


Photo 17 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0017) Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 5)
One-story barn. Looking northwest with 2-story barn in background.

Photo 18 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0018) Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 6)
Two-story barn. South elevation looking north. (2015)

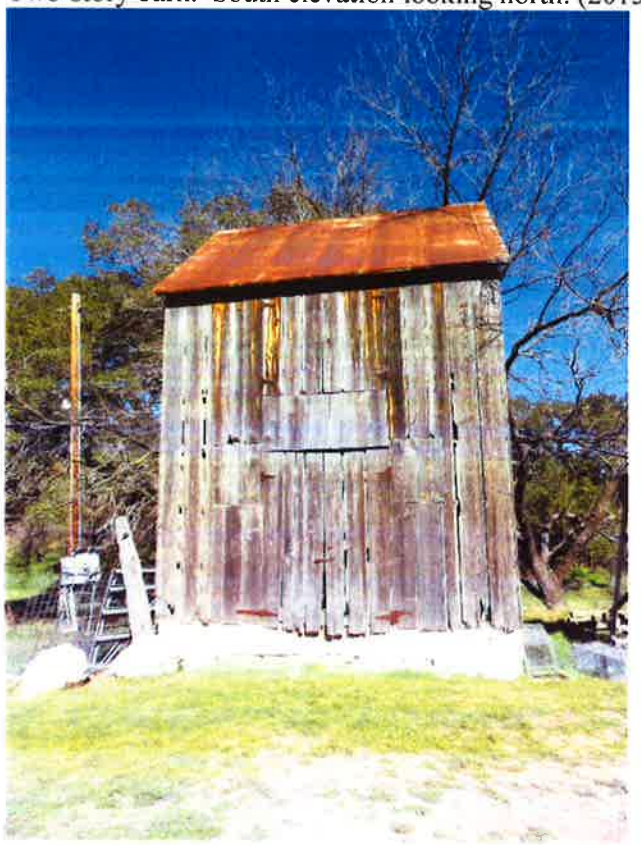


Photo 19 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0019) Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 6)
Two-story barn. Hardware on south elevation. (2017)

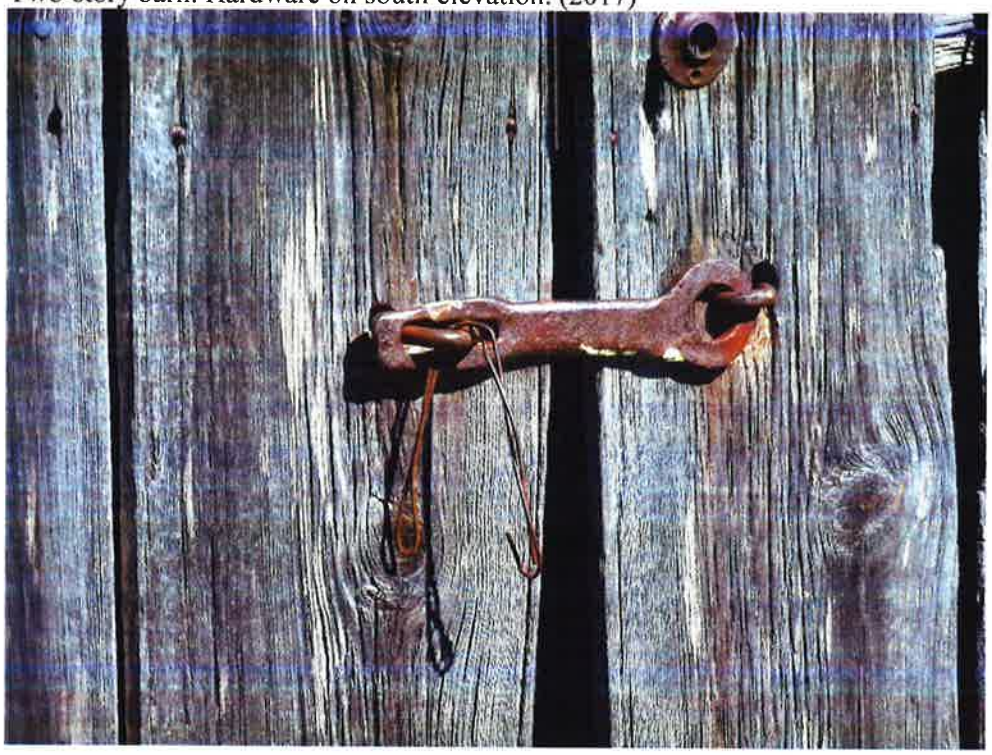


Photo 20 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0020) Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 7)
Tractor shed (non-contributing). East elevation looking west. (2015)

Photo 21 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0021) Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 8)
Log building. East and north elevations looking southwest. (2015)

Photo 22 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0022) Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 8)
Log building. South and west elevations looking northeast.

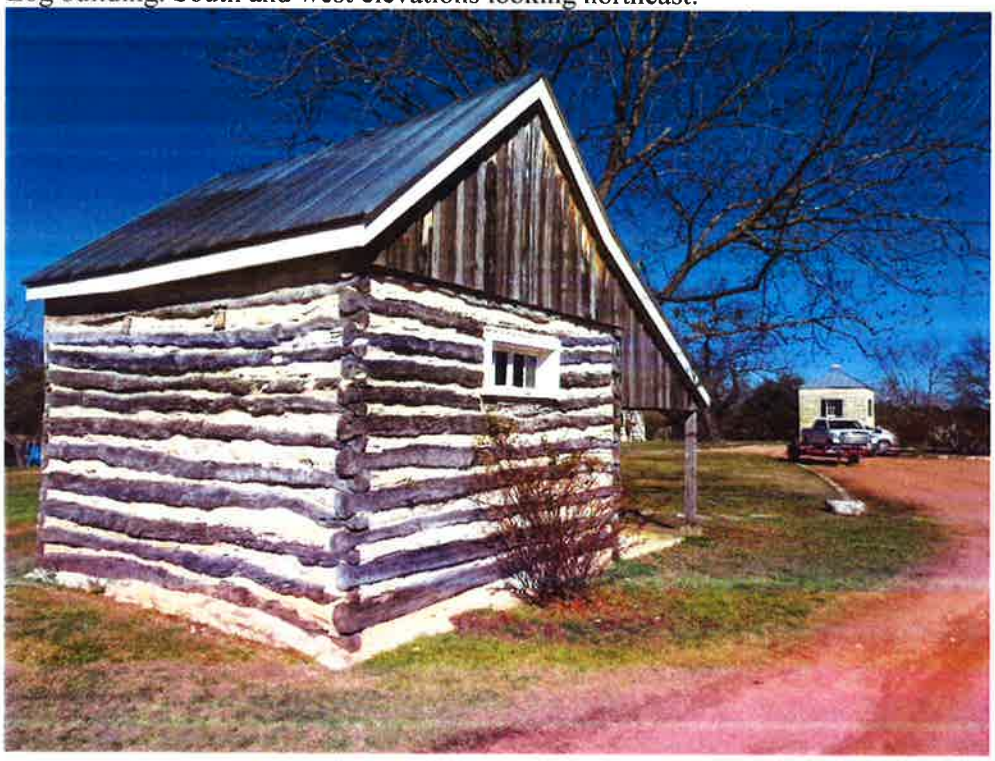


Photo 23 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0023) Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 8)
Log building. View of interior walls and roof structure.

Photo 24 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0024) Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 9)
Loading ramp. Looking west. (2015)

Photo 25 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0025) Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 10)
Plugged well.

Photo 26 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0026) Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 11)
Stone retaining wall on west side of creek looking north. (2015)

Photo 27 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0027) Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 12) Cabin. South and east elevations looking northwest. (2015)

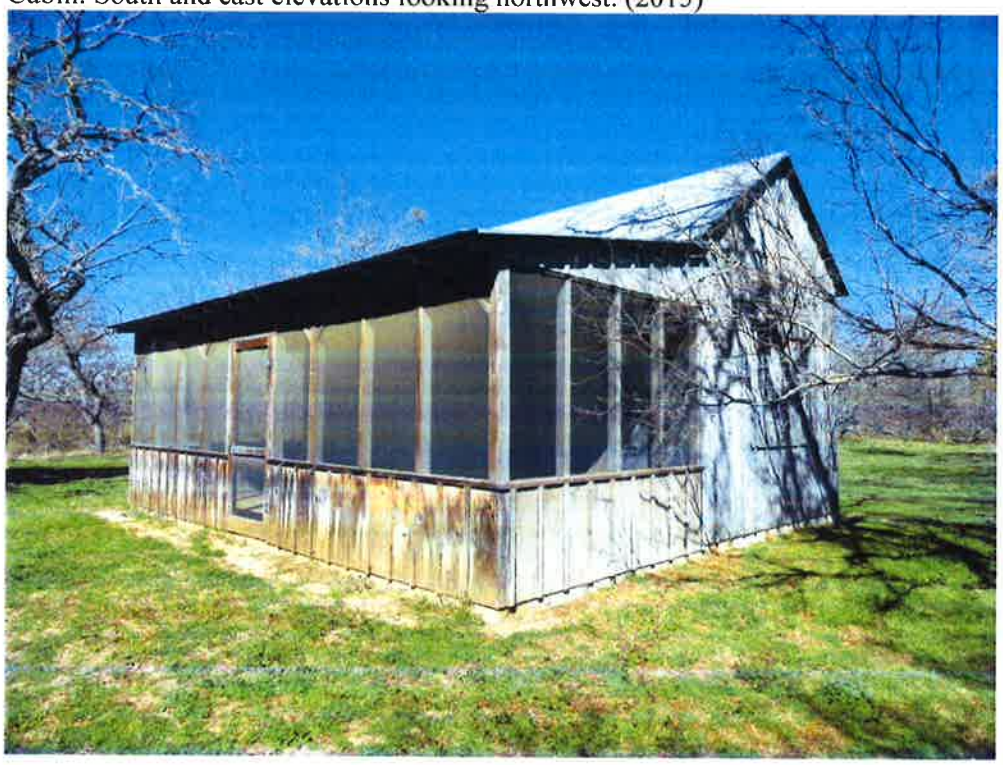


Photo 28 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0028) Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 12) Cabin. Interior looking northwest.

Photo 29 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0029) Feller-Barsch Homestead (Resource 13)
Barsch Family cemetery. Looking west. (2015)

Photo 30 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0030)
Feller-Barsch Homestead. Landscape looking west from east side of South Grape Creek. Cut for low water crossing visible on far side of creek.

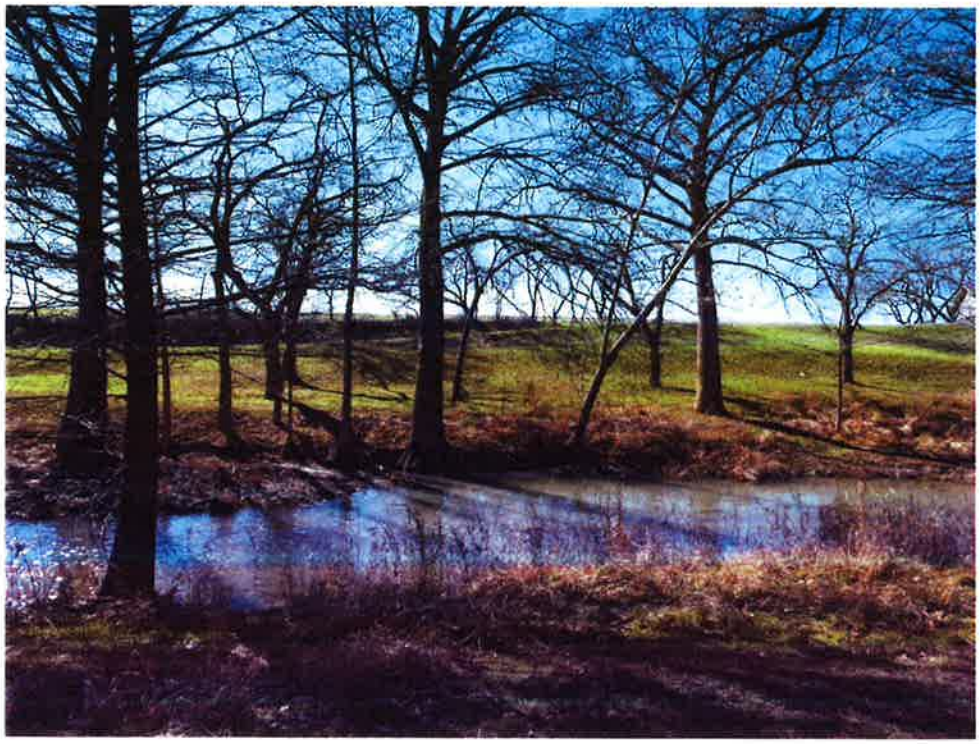


Photo 31 (TX_GillespieCounty_FellerBarsch_0031) Feller-Barsch Homestead
Heritage live oak on east side of creek near cabin.

~end~